NIAGARA COLLEGE
of Applied Arts and Technology
WELLAND CAMPUS
LEARNING
RESOURCE CENTRE

Niagara News

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Steele hit by truck

Kay Steele, president of the college support staff local, was "clipped" by a truck yesterday while picketing at the Woodlawn Road entrance to the college.

Mrs. Steele, not injured in the incident, said she was clipped by the exterior mirror of a pick-up truck after she had asked the driver to slow down.

She said she asked the driver to slow down, because "he was coming in like crazy" and she was worried about the other picketers and observers. The truck stopped, and as she was asking him to slow down, "he took off fast" and the mirror gave her "good little brush."

She copied the licence plate number of the truck and notified the police, who went to her house to get a full report.

Mrs. Steele thought the occupants of the truck looked like students. She noticed the truck coming through the line repeatedly and thought those in it were trying to irritate the picketers.

SAC fee to rise $5

By DOUG SMITH
Staff Writer

The student activity fee collected for Student Administrative Council (SAC) will be increased to $40 from $35 per student next year.

The fee, paid by all full-time students, makes up the council's operating budget for the year.

Jeff Adamson, SAC president, told a general meeting Tuesday the fee hike will be used to cover a variety of increased costs incurred by the council.

"It's just that costs in general are going up," Jeff said, before council voted unanimously in favor of the increase.

The proposal has been passed by the college's finance committee and Board of Governors, Jeff said, and is the first increase since SAC's inception.

The bulk of the raise will go to increase the athletic department budget from $10 per student to $12.

Niagara will field three new intercollegiate teams next year — a touch football team, a rowing team and a cross-country track team.

The new varsity squads will need new uniforms, updated and new equipment as well as expenses for travel and lodging, Jeff said.

The increase will bring Niagara in line with other community colleges, as about one-half of the other 21 schools have a $40 SAC fee, Jeff said.

In the past, SAC has been subsidizing the bus transportation from St. Catharines and Niagara Falls for $500 per year. The bus ran this year without SAC funds, but chances are good they will need the subsidy next year, Jeff said.

The new games room in the MacKenzie building will need supervision and maintenance and part of the increase will be used for this.

Club budget costs are up this year and will probably increase again next year, Jeff said. Part of the fee increase will be used to sponsor new clubs or increase allocations to existing ones.

With an estimated enrolment of 2,500, the increase will bring the SAC budget to $100,000 for next year. An athletic budget increase of $2 per student will give a total $30,000 for athletics.

Signing up for strike

Jerry Salfi [left], communications director of the strike committee, and Helen Wallace, college switchboard operator, huddle together in weather that does nothing for the art of conversation. The strike goes into its third day.

(Photo by Righton)

No negotiations until staff votes on offer: Lynch

By JOE WALLACE
Staff Writer

The Council of Regents is waiting for a support staff vote on its last contract offer before it will go back to the negotiating table, John Lynch, chief negotiator for the Council of Regents, told the News Wednesday.

We're waiting for a vote on our last offer," Mr. Lynch said after he was asked about the chances of returning to the talks.

The three-day-old support staff strike, affecting 123 support staff employees at Niagara, began amid Council and some union objections that the support staff workers were not given a chance to vote on the offer, a Canadian Press story said.

The College Relations Commission, which oversees bargaining disputes between the colleges and its faculty and staff, rejected a last-minute plea by the Council for a support staff vote on the last offer, saying it had no jurisdiction to force a vote, which would have set back the strike date.

The colleges wanted a province-wide vote after union leaders rejected the latest contract offer.

TURNED DOWN OFFER

Delegates representing support staff from Ontario's 22 community colleges unanimously turned down the Council of Regents' latest contract offer Monday after a last-ditch effort to avert the strike failed last weekend.

The parties involved in the dispute met last weekend under mediator Harvey Ladd to try to work out an acceptable offer.

The Council offered the union a six per cent salary increase starting Jan. 1. A change in fringe benefits was also discussed.

Both parties agree on a 2.78 per cent increase for September to December of last year, because of anti-inflation guidelines.

Kay Steele, president of local 243 (Niagara College) support staff, who was at the meeting, said the Council told the delegates the six per cent increase would be compounded, when she thought it would not.

8.78 INCREASE

Mr. Lynch told the News the six per cent increase is compounded, so the total wage package is an 8.78 per cent increase overall.

"Like they did in November, the union is trying to confuse the issue," Mr. Lynch said.

The union wants a 7.75 per cent increase beginning Jan. 1.

The Council said it has changed the fringe benefit offer, while the union said the changes were not acceptable.

The colleges changed their offer from "fringe benefits that were to have been effective April 1, 1979 would, under this new offer, be effective on the date the agreement was accepted by employees," a Council of Regents memorandum to support staff said.

"We didn't get the change in fringe benefits we asked for," Mrs. Steele said.

MORE CRITICAL

The council said the increase sought by the union will make the college financial situation "even more critical," while the union disagrees.

The memo to support staff said the total package means a $3 million cost to the colleges. Mr. Lynch said the change in the offer from April 1 to Jan. 1 means a cost of $800,000 alone.

The memo said the wage increases within the OPSEU group has exceeded 21 per cent, "which is considerably greater than the cost of the living increase over the same period (the last two years)."

Mrs. Steele said the 21 per cent increase quoted by the Council includes increases to management and teachers.

"They don't say what portion

See "Strike Vote" pg. 3

Province-wide group rallies to build strong college voice

By MICHAEL PLONER
Staff Writer

BELLEVILLE — A commission of community college students — designed to focus students' awareness on important issues — was created at a ground-breaking conference held here last weekend.

The Ontario College Commission, formed by 18 delegates representing community colleges in Ontario, will represent students' interests on a provincial level. The commission will present its policies and strategies to the ministry of colleges and universities.

Don Francis, member of the newly formed executive and student council president of Humber College, said the commission will act as a lobby group and service organization, gathering and sharing information.

"I'm personally committed to some type of organization province-wide," he said.

"We need an organization to direct issues to students who otherwise would be unaware of important issues and decisions."

The college commission will be affiliated with the Ontario Federation of Students (OFS). "Autonomy with the one exception that we acknowledge affiliation with other students in Ontario," Mr. Francis said.

See "Conference" pg. 14

RIGHT OF CHOICE

Community college student governments must decide if they want to join the Ontario College Commission. The college will not be required to join the OFS if they decide to join the commission.

The new commission will determine composition of its own executive, decision-making process within the commission, fee structure, policy in community college affairs and hire its own staff.

The policies the commission decides upon may contradict OFS policy.

Steve Ellis, president of Centennial student council, said the commission could provide social advantages to students. He said the commission could

Strikers getting $$$ from faculty union

The faculty union at Niagara College has pledged $500 to the support staff strike fund.

Craig McKay, union steward, Ontario Public Service Employees Union, (OPSEU), said a motion was passed at a meeting Jan. 23 to donate the money to the fund, and, if need be, more will be donated.

The money was taken from the local's business account.

Mr. McKay said the academic local is taking voluntary contributions from faculty. He said if two-thirds of the faculty at Niagara donated $10 a day, the academic local could turn over $5,000 or $6,000 a week to the support staff. If they all gave, it would be close to $10,000 a week.

He said any money received by the academic unit would be turned over to the local support staff executive, which in turn would distribute it according to need.

He said the academic unit at George Brown College in Toronto has pledged $21,000 a week to

See "Strike $$$" pg. 6

Strike Digest

Legitimate reasons for 7

Seven faculty members did not attend classes Wednesday but they all had legitimate reasons, Jacqueline Robarts, college president, said.

"None of the faculty were not in due to the strike," Miss Robarts said. Student attendance she felt was "as good as or better than a normal school day."

Thursday, Jan. 26, found about six faculty calling in sick. Three were from the Welland Vale campus. The other three were at the remaining campuses.

Fight rear guard action

Support staff strikers may have found a way to impede what many would term an essential component to the operation of the college — toilet paper.

Yesterday they stopped the driver of Kaumeyer Paper Products Limited at the picket line. The driver is a member of the Teamsters Union, and his union is honoring the strike.

Among other things, Kaumeyer supplies the college with washroom essentials such as toilet paper and paper towels.

Kaumeyer management said they would attempt to make the delivery again today.

TV and books suspended

Live classroom television and the circulation of books during the day have been suspended due to the support staff strike, Stephen Kees, head librarian, siaid.

Mr. Kees said all reading and reference services will be maintained during the strike and, if the students wish, books can be signed out after 4:30 p.m.

Teachers can still sign out films for classroom use.

Evening courses as usual

Part-time evening courses and late registration will continue as scheduled during the strike, Jacqueline Robarts, college president, said.

Instructors have been buying the required texts for students unalble to purchase the books themselves during the day.

Miss Robarts said there would only be two or three instructors affected by the strike.

Doors lock at noon

The hours were shorter, but the bookstore remained open Wednesday, the first day of the strike, staffed by one clerk and a security guard.

Bookstore hours during the strike period will be 9 a.m. to noon instead of 8:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Because of the absence of two support staff personnel, the security guard is necessary to watch the cash register in case the clerk is called to business at the back of the store.

Daycare open despite strike; half a dozen children left

By MARGARET BOYD
Staff Writer

The Early Childhood Education (ECE) Centre is quiet and nearly empty. There are about half a dozen children left now, the children of Niagara College students. It must be bewildering to have their classmates and teachers missing.

Margaret Hamilton, program co-ordinator of ECE, said she wanted to have some children remain in the centre because the ECE students work with the centre's children as part of their field placement. Children of college students are the only ones permitted to remain.

The ECE Centre closing will mostly affect parents who work. Mrs. Hamilton said she felt badly about letting parents down. Letters about the strike were given to parents last Friday.

NO WORK

Lynn Carlo, secretary for a law firm, has two children attending the ECE Centre—Paul,4 and Kelly, 1. She said she would have to miss work during the strike because she has no other babysitter.

Pat Pokorny, a teacher, said she'd have to get a sitter for Peter, 2, during the strike.

Some mothers of children attending the centre do not work, so the closing is no problem. Linda Gibson brings her daughter to the centre for half a day because there are no young children in her neighborhood.

Parents are required to pay six months in advance for half-day care at the ECE Centre, Mrs. Hamilton said. Mrs. Gibson said she wondered if she would be reimbursed for the time the centre is closed.

The parents of children attending the ECE centre are hoping the strike will be a short one. A grandmother picking up her two grandchildren at the centre said the strike was a "real headache." Both the mother and grandmother of the two children are teachers. The grandmother said they would try to get the children into the community day care but they "can't count on it."

Mrs. Hamilton said she had asked the assistant administrator at the St. Catharines office of regional day care to consider placing the children affected by the centre's closing. Some parents are "in a real bind," she said.

Pat Pokorny, a teacher, will have to find a baby sitter for Peter, 2, while the Early Childhood Education Centre is closed.

(Photo by Boyd)

Conference: don't do support staff's work

By MICHAEL PLONER
Staff Writer

BELLEVILLE — Don't do the support staff's work while they're on strike.

That was the message student leaders received following a landmark conference of community college representatives in Belleville last weekend.

Students should be urged by leaders to refrain from performing duties normally assumed by support staff employees if the directive is followed at campuses.

The college delegates showed their cohesiveness by overwhelmingly voting to pass both support staff resolutions presented at the conference.

"The student leaders at colleges urge the ministry of colleges and universities and support staff union to come to an immediate and fair agreement," their first resolution stated.

Delegates also asked student leaders to inform their students regularly as to the progress of contract negotiations.

The representatives from 18 colleges around Ontario expressed their concern regarding the strike in terms of a loss in education to community college students.

'AFFECT QUALITY'

"It will affect the quality of our education and the strike will adversely affect the relations between students, faculty, and support staff," the resolution said.

John O'Grady, assistant to the president of the support staff union, spoke to the community college delegates and Ontario Federation of Students' representatives at the conference.

"There is not a shadow of a doubt the college system will be disrupted and may be closed" if the support staff goes on strike, Mr. O'Grady said.

"They're out to estabilish a strategy and they're out to win it," he said referring to what he considered the Ontario government's reluctance to meet the union's demands.

The government is using this strike as an example to more powerful groups in the Ontario Public Service Employees' Union (OPSEU), he said.

Mr. O'Grady said he felt this resistance to meet the union's demands is an appropriate place for the government to make a strategic point.

USING SUPPORT STAFF

The government is using the support staff because they know the union is relatively weak, he said. Most of the union members are women, their wages are below average, and they hold no strategic place in Ontario's economic system.

"I hope we can count on you to ensure the strategic ploys won't work on students," Mr. O'Grady told the delegates.

Win a hand-hooked area rug made by the president of Niagara College, Jackie Robarts!

Tickets are available now at:

Hennepin Hall
Welland Vale office
SAC office
Resource Centre
S210 and
divisional secretaries
Additional info 377

3/$1.00 or 50¢

The draw will be held February 17 and with 2,000 tickets there are lots of chances to win this beautiful rug.

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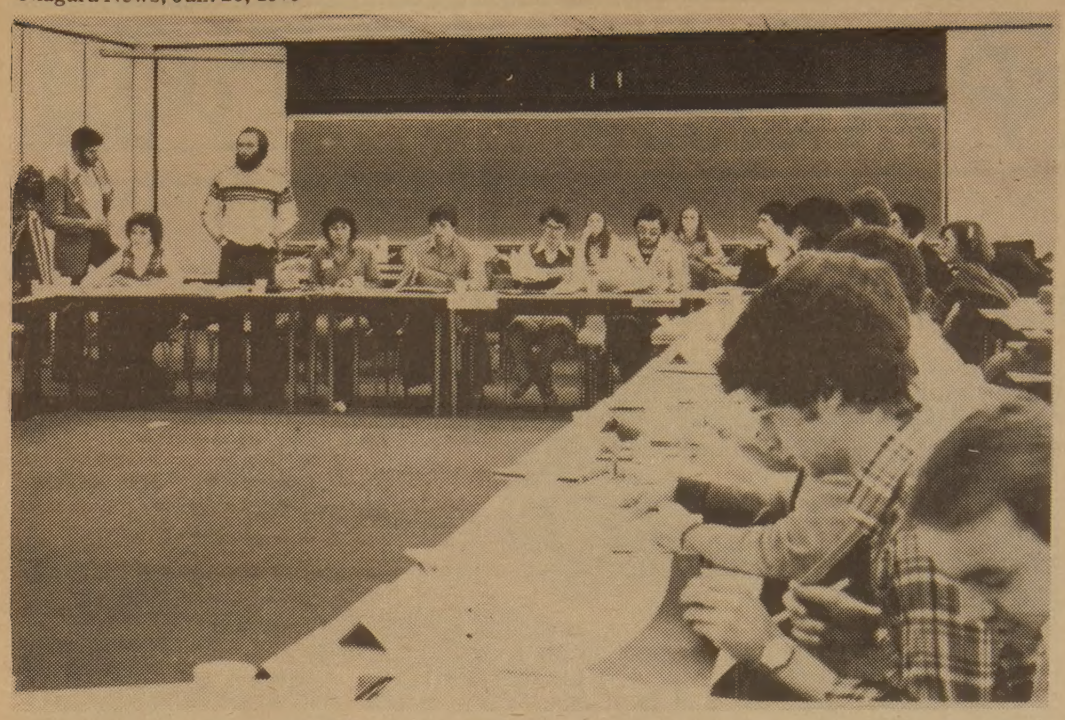


Unprecedented event

Delegates representing community colleges from around Ontario met last weekend in Belleville to discuss student policies on important issues. Mike McMurter, president of Loyalist student council, is seen addressing the conference. Tuition increases, the support staff strike and a new college commission were discussed at the meeting.

(Photo by Ploner)

Student leaders vote against fee increase

By MICHAEL PLONER
Staff Writer

BELLEVILLE — Student leaders at the first community college conference voted unanimously to support a motion opposed to the government's announced tuition increase and operating grant "underfunding."

Student councils across Ontario will be petitioning their Boards of Governors if the resolution is followed by college student governments.

The petition will be in response to the P.S. Ross report, a government-sponsored study of tuition and incidental fees which gives a comprehensive analysis of the financial situation but makes no recommendations. The report mentions the possibility of tuition fees increasing to $1,000 a year. This increase was calculated on the basis of charging students 20 per cent of their complete educational costs.

Chris Allnut, Ontario Federation of Students' researcher, said the ministry will probably go for the 15 to 20 per cent proportion.

The representatives, meeting in Belleville last weekend, resolved that a liaison committee be formed to express student concern over the tuition increases.

ANGRY WIRES

Student governments across the province sent telegrams to the minister of colleges and universities last Tuesday urging her to meet with the delegation.

The ministry will make its final tuition decisions in November after analysing the P.S. Ross report.

Delegates at the conference asked student governments, by resolution, to peruse their respective college budgets for unnecessary spending.

"Look at how the money is being spent, try to eliminate spending that seems unjustifiable," Don Francis, president of Humber college, said.

Len Taylor, operations manager for the National Union of Students (NUS), said the federal government appropriation to the Ontario government's educational system kept pace with the inflation and cost of living rates.

He said the province has diverted money earmarked for education into maintenance of highways and other projects not related to education.

If the Ontario government spent the money allotted to education on education, there would be no operating grant underfunding in the community college system, he said.

Delegates said "underfunding in the post-secondary educational system has and will continue to have an adverse affect on the quality of education."

The liaison committee that meets with Dr. Bette Stephenson, minister of colleges and universities, will hold a press conference afterwards.

First seminar Jan. 31

Investment advice offered at college

If you pay personal income taxes and would like to learn of investment programs available, three evening seminars discussing various aspects of taxation are being offered by Niagara College to help plan your finances.

Sponsored by the continuing education division of the school of business, guest speakers Jeffery G. Oborne and Donald C. Reid, both of Pitfield, MacKay, Ross Company Ltd., will discuss in easy-to-understand terms the pros and cons of tax deferral plans, ways to increase after-tax investment income and tax benefits from investment income splitting between husband and wife.

The first seminar will be Wednesday, Jan. 31, at the Welland Vale Centre in St. Catharines; the second at the Niagara Rainbow Hotel Centre, River Road, Niagara Falls, Feb. 8, and the third at the Welland campus, Feb. 15.

Registration time is 7:15 p.m. with the $5 fee covering the seminar and the cost of course materials.

For additional information, call Ext. 451, 735-2211 from Welland; 384-9780 from St. Catharines and Niagara Falls; 688-1380 from Niagara-on-the-Lake and areas.

Staff striker tells trucker where to go

A support staff striker told a unionized trucker where to go when the trucker arrived at the picket line Wednesday.

The trucker, unaware of the strike and thinking a bearded picketer was a student demonstrator, stopped his truck to inquire where the receiving department was located.

The picketer pointed north on Chippewayan boulevard and the trucker pulled through to deliver his cargo to the receiving dock. The picketer made no mention of the strike.

Jackie denies closing of Theatre Centre

Jacqueline Robarts, Niagara College president, denied Theatre Centre classes face a possible suspension during the support staff strike.

"Nobody can talk about closing classes without the rest of the members being consulted," Miss Robarts said. "Our Board of Governors decides about cancellations or closings along with the Council of Regents' approval."

Feeling that perhaps John Rapsey, theatre arts program co-ordinator, was a bit "premature" in his comments, Miss Robarts said: "There is no plan to close the Theatre Centre."

Although Mr. Rapsey felt no other qualified faculty could replace Sandra McIntosh, costume design instructor who is considered part of support staff and is on strike, Miss Robarts said a replacement is being sought. At most she anticipates a delay of one or two days before classes resume.

Purchasing of vital theatre production supplies and materials hampered by the strike was foreseen as possibly causing things to "grind to a halt" by Mr. Rapsey. Miss Robarts said, "we'll do everything to keep things running. We'll try our very best to meet those needs.

"I don't think the strike is going to affect them any more down there than it affects the main campus."

Students, staff cross picket lines, speeches don't convince them

Students and staff continue to cross support staff picket lines, despite well-rehearsed speeches each vehicle receives entering and leaving the Welland campus.

A good number of students in cars entering from Woodlawn Road Wednesday, the first day of the strike, did not wait to hear what the striking support staff had to say, accelerating their cars through the line and sometimes missing individuals by inches.

After one girl screamed an obscenity through her car window, a striker said she felt such comments were uncalled for, especially since no one was being prevented from crossing the picket line.

"We are the most non-violent group I've seen in a long time," she said. She said the girl may have felt apprehensive of the crowd.

Those who stopped to listen were politely told why the support staff were striking and were asked to call administration if they felt intimidated by the picket line or that their studies or duties at the college were being disrupted by the strike. They were told it would be appreciated if they did not cross the line.

A special strike edition of the Niagara News, distributed early Wednesday morning, came in handy when drizzling rain soaked the strikers' placards.

Conference

Cont'd from page 1

of the economic pie goes to the support staff," she said.

The memo said the offer is equal to, or greater than, settlements made with comparable groups in the public or private sector.

Mrs. Steele said the support staff is the lowest paid under OPSEU and the lowest paid of support staff groups in the province.

She said even with the percentage increase the union seeks, the wage scale "will remain at the same level — below the poverty line.

"We're stuck," she said. "We need the 10 per cent just to stay level with inflation."

Saltarelli attends meeting

Mark Saltarelli, acting co-ordinator for labor studies was invited to attend a convocation on unemployment Jan. 19 at All Peoples' Church, Welland.

The convocation, organized by the Prophetic Witness Committee of Hamilton conference of the United Church of Canada, invited representatives of labor, management, education, the media, government, social services and community groups "to assist church people in coming to grips with the job crisis which we are facing," the invitation letter stated

With his eyes wide open...

Publishing three times this week is as close to Austin Jelbert's dream of going daily with the Niagara News that has been accomplished so far.

The Journalism-Print program co-ordinator says the News will do it one day.

The News normally publishes weekly in the winter term.

It did reach another plateau this year — production of the largest edition ever of the News with its 20-page Christmas edition, Dec. 11, in two colors.

The Monday edition of the News brought "today stories" which included a meeting of support staff negotiators in Toronto on that day which culminated in Wednesday's walk-out.

A special strike edition, prepared in advance and kept under wraps, informed readers of services available at the college on Wednesday, the first day of the strike. It was at distribution points on the Woodlawn campus before picket lines were established at 7:30 a.m.

Today's edition brings stories and pictures on the first day of the strike and developments until 4 p.m. yesterday.

EDITORIAL PAGE I

Opinions / Letters

Support sports!

A thunderous roar cascades from the rafters of the sold out Welland Arena as the Niagara Knights hockey team takes the ice.

Earlier in the day, a boisterous mob jammed the MacKenzie Building gym and cheered and jeered as a Niagara basketball game.

Common occurences? Hardly. Attendance at Niagara's most prominent varsity events is, to say the least, disappointing.

One can visit the Welland Arena any Saturday night and be lucky to count 50 people in the stands cheering for the Knights. The same can be said for basketball.

This is a sad situation.

Niagara's teams produce a good, exciting product and, save for a few hearty souls (who deserve a round of applause themselves), nobody attends.

Something is wrong when an American team can bring a few fans along on a bus and make our players feel as if they are playing on the road. Why is this so?

It certainly can't be the price, as all hockey and basketball games are free to the public. There may be some explanations for this.

First, it is hard to generate interest in varsity sports. Unlike high school or university, students stay at a community college only for a maximum of three years. They are more concerned with preparing themselves for a job in the outside world which, of course, is what they are here for.

The lack of what I call a "dormitory atmosphere" also hurts. In high school or university, most students live close to the educational institution and can easily attend sporting events. However, at Niagara, people live anywhere from Port Colborne to St. Catharines (or even further), which is certainly not conducive to frequent attendance at sporting events.

Despite all this, it is possible for some increase in attendance to occur. Many will say they can find better things to do with their Saturday nights than attend hockey games. A compromise can be worked out.

Most hockey games end about 10:30 p.m. Since the majority of taverns and discos are open until 1 a.m., it leaves one 2½ hours to go out and have a good time after the game.

As for basketball, most games are on Thursday nights. They usually end about 8:30 p.m., so the excuse that Friday is a school day is not really valid.

Fan support can be a great incentive for an athlete. Let's all chip in some support so that Niagara's athletic teams can feel appreciated and not as if they are playing in some foreign area.

Robert Brodie

Disco addictive?

"If you love the night life, then put on your boogie shoes, find a macho man, freak-out and boogie-oogie-oogie til you just can't boogie no more."

Only those individuals into the disco scene will realize that the preceding jargon is constructed of fragments from disco songs.

Heed my words, disco dancing and music can become an addiction. Once you've gone to a disco, you're bound to come back for more. The dimmed setting with flashing colored lights round the dance floor and the rhythmic beat of the music produce a hypnotic effect.

I wouldn't consider myself a disco-maniac, but I do enjoy going to discos to dance and meet people.

It really irritates me when people who have never been to discos criticize them. Therefore, I'd like to clear up a few misconceptions.

First, not all males who attend discos wear three-piece suits and look and act like John Travolta. His character in Saturday Night Fever was glamorized—typically Hollywood.

Second of all, you don't have to be a master of the Latin and New York Hustles. Even if you have two left feet, you can go to discos to socialize.

Third, it is unfair to say that all males who go to discos are there for "easy pick-ups." Discos should be praised, as they are clean establishments. Tacky bars are available for such pick-ups.

Erma Bombeck, syndicated columnist, is one of those people who has probably never been to a disco and still insists on criticizing them. To her, disco is a big joke.

In an article she comments on how much disco has influenced advertising. With any big craze, such as disco, commercialism takes over and everyone is out to make a fast buck. The Bee Gees are a classic example of singers who have made a mint with disco records.

But can they really be blamed? No. That's the way it is in a society that thirsts for the almighty dollar.

But Erma takes her criticism to ridiculous extremes. She makes asinine references to "disco water beds, disco cars and disco crackers."

She also says she has yet to find anybody who dances "a la disco." Where has she been hiding? In a broom closet? If people didn't dance, the places wouldn't be called discos, they'd be bars. Surely Erma must know of their existence. My word to Erma is, "Get with it, lady, the dark ages have passed. It's 1979 A.D., not B.C.!"

Mary Koziello

A walk through winter

Winters in the Niagara peninsula usually bring a plethora of miserable weather, not serene, peaceful days like the one pictured above. For local citizens fearful of snow, wind, sleet and freezing rain can take heart that such nice, enjoyable days have been plentiful throughout this normally nasty period. This picture, taken looking south from the Black Walnut building, shows a day suitable for walking in the snow, building snowmen, or having a playful snowball fight with the one you love. Hardly the usual scene, which drives even the heartiest of winter weather enthusiasts scurrying for the warmth and cosiness of home. (Photo by Boyd)

Ooops!

A story in the last edition of the Niagara News about new darkroom facilities in the Hennepin Hall mistakenly reported the facilities were moved from the Black Walnut building to the Hennepin Hall. the darkroom was moved from the MacKenzie building, not the Black Walnut building.

Ooops again

It was a sharp key on a typewriter which caused the misspelling of the name of Pat Della Valle, supervisor of receiving, in Wednesday's paper. The key cut the entire letter out of the copy paper and it appeared to be an "o" at the end of the first portion of the surname, rather than an "a". The typesetter took the hole for an "o" and the proofreader, not knowing the spelling of the name, did the same thing. The News apologizes to Mr. Della Valle for the error.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

So the support staff is on strike. Some classes will be cancelled. The Early Childhood Education Centre is closed.

I overheard a woman saying a few days ago that the support staff should strike if they're "living below the poverty line."

I say what about the students?

With ever-increasing tuition costs and ever-diminishing student grants we are caught in the middle of a dilemma not rightfully ours.

Children of college students can remain at the Childhood Education Centre. This shows that the college has the interests of the students in mind but what about all the parents of the 120 children who attend the centre? Some of them will have to stay home and miss work or their children will have to adjust to a new babysitter or daycare.

Perhaps the support staff should take a good look at the ever-widening circle of persons crippled by their strike. The majority of students don't realize the implications of a strike.

Angry young woman

Dear Editor:

I would like to express my appreciation to you and your students for the professionalism demonstrated in the Niagara News. I am very impressed with its excellence!

Jan Potton
Liberal Studies instructor

Dear Editor:

The editorial entitled "$$$ at the root of it" in your special edition of the News, Jan. 24, deserves congratulations. It was well-written, well-balanced, and lends an air of restraint to a situation where extremes of emotion will give us all something to regret. A **very** good piece. . . keep it up!

G. Laughton
English Division

BULLPIT

Need Robin Hood to supplement $

By JUDY SUGA
Staff Writer

Robin Hood stole from the rich to give to the poor, the legend goes. I wonder what he would do today if he was acquainted with retraining students who will be receiving ridiculously low training allowances because of a federal cutback in unemployment insurance.

Retraining students under the UIC are receiving only 60 per cent of their gross earnings, (since Jan. 7), rather than the customary two-thirds. The resulting allowances are ludicrous, to say the least.

For the sake of argument, take the case of imaginary retraining student John X, who is married and has one child. John would receive the breathtaking amount of $95 a week for his family to live, or rather, survive on.

If he has to travel to school, he receives a most "generous" travelling allowance of seven cents a mile over 15 miles, less than 90 cents a week if he were commuting from Niagara Falls to St. Catharines, for example. If he rode a bicycle, the money might be sufficient, but with the high price of gasoline, 90 cents would hardly take him from his garage to the end of his street.

And with rent, taxes or home repairs to pay for, along with groceries, bills, clothing, and insurance (the list goes on), how is he expected to keep up?

The figures don't improve, either, when a retraining student living alone without dependents gets $60 a week, and one with four dependents or more receives $125.

Most retraining students would probably get more if they remained at home on welfare. Where is the incentive for them to try to go out and do something with their lives, to learn new skills and get jobs so they would no longer have to collect unemployment?

As Howard Wilson, a retraining student and head of an ad hoc committee protesting the allowance cutbacks, said, "They're (retraining students) trying to better themselves." If trying to be "better" means having to scrape and save and hope that no unpleasant surprise comes up to further drain the family's inadequate income, it's a wonder so many are still sticking to it.

EDITORIAL PAGE II

Quotes / Viewpoints

ROVING REPORTER

Strike has little effect on students

By EDDI VENTRESCA
and PAM RIGHTON
Staff Writers

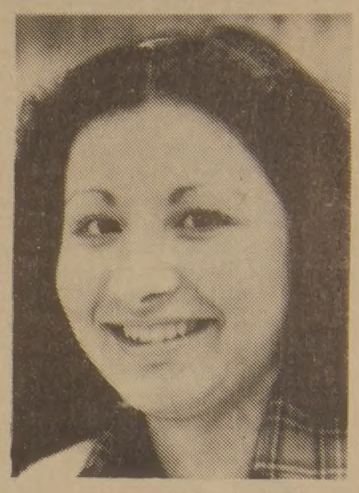
Question: Were you stopped by striking support staff members on Wednesday morning? What were your reactions to the strike?

John Dakin, first year business administration, St. Catharines: No, I wasn't stopped as I came in. There were two people on First Avenue who didn't give me any trouble at all. I don't think this strike is having any effect on me.

Jane Henye, second year fashion arts, Welland: Yes, I was stopped. At first, I wasn't going to put down the window but someone motioned me to. He told me I didn't have to cross the picket line because it was a legal strike and that I didn't have to go to school and I could do my work at home. I told him I had to do my work at school.

Peter Epp, second year journalism, St. Catharines: Yes, I was stopped at the Welland Vale Centre. Very politely, one of the strikers handed me a leaflet. As I was going through, they told me that I had just crossed the picket line. I was surprised to find any picketers there because of the weather. There were 14.

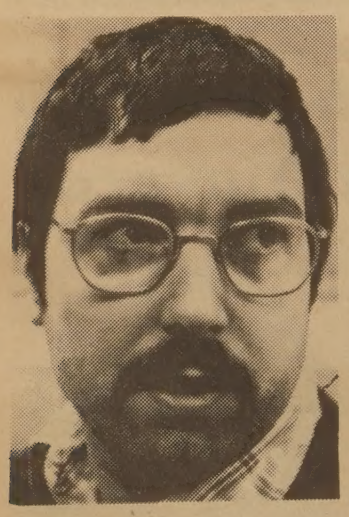
Dave Rasmussen, first year law and security, Vineland: My brother was driving on Rice Road and three striker stood about three feet from each other so we had to drive around them. They didn't stop us, they just stood in the way.



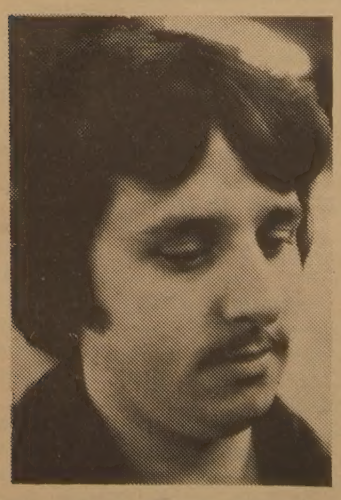
Toni Ferraro, first year dictatypist, Niagara Falls: Two women stopped the bus from Niagara Falls on Rice Road and told the driver the bus couldn't go through because it was a legal strike. The strikers said the bus could go through only if they supported the strike. The women told the driver to call the adminstration and then let the bus through.

Preserves woodcrafting technique

By TOM POWELL
Staff Writer



Tim Gurnick, third year industrial management, Welland: No, I wasn't stopped and the strike doesn't bother me. I'm not going to jeopardize my schooling unless it comes to the point of no teachers in class. From what I understand, I think they're asking too much.



Dave Bradt. first year chemical engineering technician, Kirkland Lake: No, I wasn't stopped. I came in by the bus and didn't know the buses were honoring the picket line.

Searching for furniture to accent a home can be a tiresome and frustrating experience. But there is a shop on Merritt Street in St. Catharines that can make this search much shorter and more successful.

St. Onge fine woodworking products, located on 253 Merritt St., has been open for business since June. Its owner, Emile St. Onge, is an experienced woodcrafter who will make any type of wood furniture imaginable, as long as the ideas are down on paper.

"I will draw up plans if people give me their ideas," Emile said. "I can go to people's houses and do repair work as well if they want moulding fixed or things of that nature."

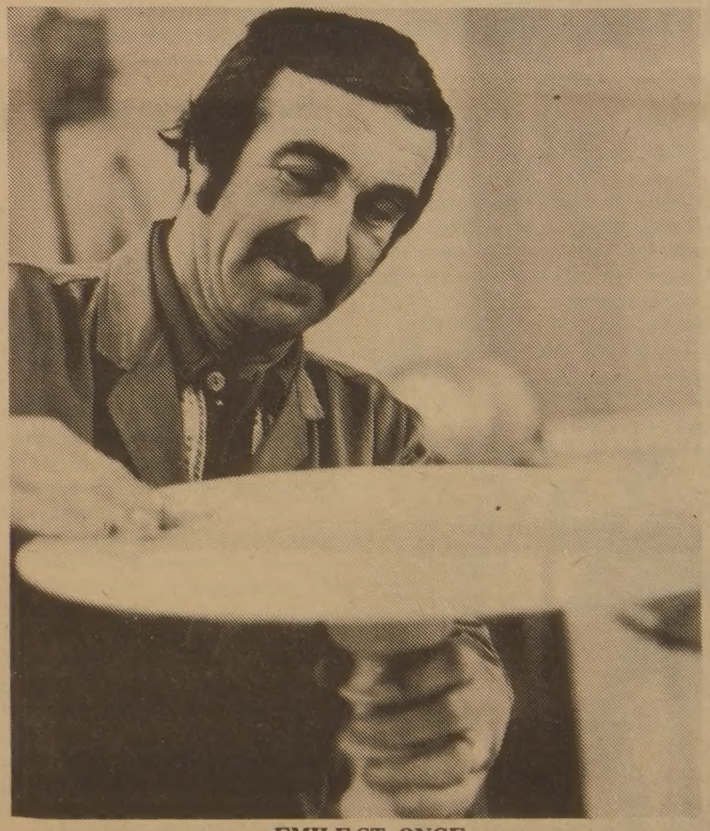
YOUTHFUL ART

For Emile making furniture is a return to an art he started when he was 17 years old. Born in Lowell, Vermont, he moved with his family to the eastern townships of Quebec when he was three.

Mr. St. Onge worked as a woodworker for 20 years and then turned his talents to construction. He was a foreman for a general contractor and worked on the pavillions and mini-rail for Expo '67 as well as the construction of some of the Olympic installations. But always during this time he continued to hone his talents as a woodmaker.

Emile and his wife, Vi, have only been in Ontario since February. They moved to Elliot Lake and were intending to buy a piece of land to build on.

Emile and Vi left Montreal because of problems in Quebec today. They said their main concern was not with the French-English question but the fact that Emile was unhappy with no-fault car insurance. Because of his many trips to Ontario he was worried about insurance coverage when he left his home province.



EMILE ST. ONGE

Since the St. Onges had a hard time acquiring the land they wanted in Elliot Lake, they came to Toronto to try to find a suitable location for their shop. Nothing appealed to them there, so they moved on to St. Catharines.

They are now quite comfortable in the shop that once housed a meat-packing firm. The area provided is more than adequate for Emile's lathe, jigsaw and other paraphernalia needed to make a pine or maple tree into a beautiful piece of furniture most people would like to see in their homes.

Their shop on Merritt Street resembles a hobbyist's basement more than a commercial outlet. There is a friendly air to their establishment. Emile has set out a sample of some of his small tables and a working model of a design he created for cupboards. He and his wife are very pleasant and more than willing to sit down and discuss any type of design patrons may prefer.

Emile gets his design ideas from his own head and older design books he has acquired through the years. But, as he always likes to point out, with the proper measurements and an inkling of an idea, he can make whatever design anyone wishes.

The tables run from $60 unstained to $75 stained and lacquered.

As much as he and his wife appreciate fine old furniture, Emile said sometimes antique furniture can be too much in some houses.

"A lot of antiques in a small house can look crowded," Emile said. "You really need a big house to show them off properly."

If tastes dictate modern furniture, Emile will be more than willing to comply by providing items that range from lawn chairs to tables suitable for housing a television set.

A trip to this shop may save all the tiresome searching for the perfect piece of furniture no one else seems to have.

Niagara News

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Daycare closed for Jodi

Three-year-old Jodi Moote and her mother will not be affected too badly by the closing of the Early Childhood Education Centre. Mrs. Moote doesn't work during the week and Jodi attends for half a day only. (Photo by Boyd)

New import from Soviet Union 'a Lada car for the money'

By PETER EPP
Staff Writer

Maybe you've seen it darting through an intersection. You wondered what it was. A mini-Volvo? Or perhaps a fat Fiat? You probably saw the newest foreign car on the Canadian market — the Russian-built Lada.

Pronounced "Lodda" — hence the dealer's motto "a Lada car for the money" — the small, four-door vehicle may very well be just that.

At $3,781, the Lada weighs in at one of the most inexpensive cars on the market.

And like Henry's Ford, the customer can have any option — as long as it's a radio. This is not to say that the Lada is stripped as bare as the Russian steppes. Rather, many of the "options" on other cars are standard equipment on the Lada.

It comes only in a four-door, four-speed transmission and four-cylinder engine model, but it has made available to the consumer one staf of individuality. An AM radio is available for $99, and FM for $169. So for a top price of $3,950, you can have your Lada a bit different from Yorgi's or Igor's.

Far from being cold and grey, the interiors are attractively designed and can hold their own against any American counterpart.

All instrumentation such as wipers, lights, and turning signals are arranged around the steering shaft, leaving the dashboard face relatively uncluttered except for the speedometer and tach windows. A large functional clock sits in the middle of the dash looking down upon the stick shift.

John Young, general manager of the region's only Lada dealership, Marway Motors on Hartzel Road, St. Catharines, said the car has sold relatively well since it was introduced to Canada about 10 months ago.

So far, he said he has sold about 50 cars since Marway Motors opened last fall. The only Ladas on Mr. Young's lot are demonstrators. All cars are sold by order from Halifax.

BIT HESITANT

He said the response to the car has been a bit hesitant because of its Russian origins, but said when the Lada catches on, it should sell very well. He said more than four million Ladas have been built in the Soviet Union so far.

The car has sold well in eastern Europe, Mr. Young said. "A lot of the Ladas sold in the United Kingdom are being used as taxis. They have an excellent torque situation which makes the car ideal for suburban driving."

The Lada has a few features which are inventive. Among them is the heater. "The car is designed for temperatures 40 to 50 below zero," he said. "The heater is so good it will chase you out of the car."

The reason for this, he said, is a thermostatically-controlled fan which doesn't run off of the overhead cam engine. "Even when the car is idling, the fan is running at 3000 rpm. You'll never see these cars heat up on a hot, summer day."

TUCKED AWAY TANK

In order not to have a repeat performance of the Pinto-panic, the Lada's gas tank has been neatly tucked to the left side of the trunk.

Mr. Young said this is a safety feature. If the Lada is hit from behind, the gas tank has a chance of not being hit. If the Lada is hit from the side, the gas tank will be swept away with the trunk, away from the passengers.

Evidence of Russian influence in the Lada is apparent when the trunk is opened. A 22-piece tool bag, containing enough tools to perform a "major engine overhaul," is found neatly affixed to the back.

BECOME MECHANIC

Mr. Young said in the Soviet Union people wishing to purchase vehicles must first complete a mechanics course. "They don't have service centres on every corner like here in Canada."

The Lada is relatively inexpensive to maintain, Mr. Young said. "The price of parts (available from Ajax, Ont.) are much below market average."

Regarding customer complaints, Mr. Young said, "We feel like the Maytag repair people."

Mr. Young said the Lada delivered at Halifax for Canadian consumers is different from the one built for Russian consumers in that Canadians receive a dressed-up version.

Considering that Yorgi and Igor will pay nearly $8,000 for their stripped-down Lada, that is a Lada car for the money.

Strike $$$$$$

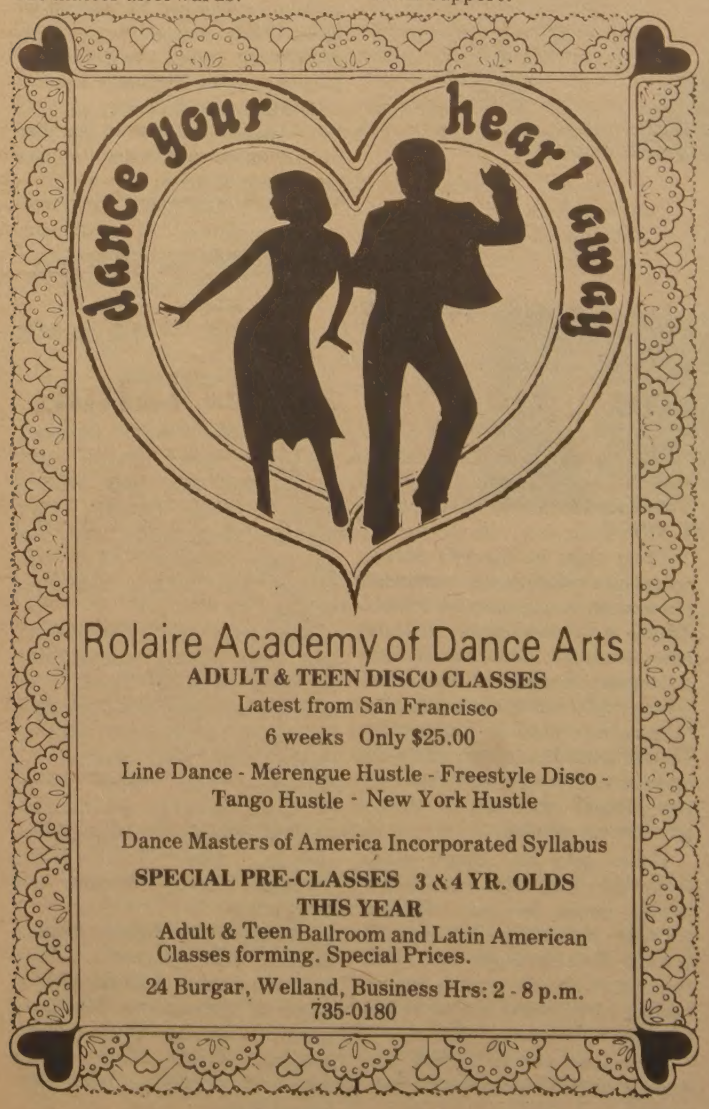
Cont'd. from page 1

the strike fund.

The choices are: "Refuse, a sit is not part of your regular job. Ask to see your job description with this task in it. Call your local steward and ask for his or her assistance in discussing this with your immediate supervisor. Or, if you are told this is auxiliary teaching duties, you must, of course, do it and grieve the matter afterwards."

The union also offers ideas as to how the faculty can help during the strike.

They can help by "doing only your own job," or faculty can "join a picket line on off duty time," or offer monetary support individually or as a local. The faculty can also "assist with procuring of supplies and offer moral support."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Students in UB health program double as teachers at Niagara

Denise Cusick and Debbie Heysek are students in a unique health program at the University of Buffalo. They are also dental auxiliary teachers at Niagara College on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Ms Cusick and Ms Heysek are practice teachers with first-year dental assistants and help in the hygienists' clinic on Thursdays. Ms Cusick teaches radiology to dental assistants and Debbie teaches principles (different dental specialties).

Their classes at the University of Buffalo are made up of freshman, sophomore and junior dental hygiene students. The health program is unique because students at the university in allied health programs take certain classes together and have other classes in their various disciplines, Ms Heysek said.

Their undergraduate program in the department of health sciences education and evaluation at the University of Buffalo will qualify them to teach as dental hygiene-educators in community colleges or hospital dental hygiene programs, Ms Cusick said.

Practice teachers Denise Cusick and Debbie Heysek.

They are not the first students from Buffalo to come to Niagara College for practice teaching, Ms Heysek said. Field placement is difficult to obtain in New York; there are only six other colleges with dental programs. There are good opportunities for jobs though, Ms Heysek said.

The two have different educational backgrounds. Ms Heysek has a master of arts degree in education, a bachelor of arts and a certificate in general hygiene from Ohio State University. She is originally from Columbus, Ohio.

Ms Cusick, originally from Syracuse, N.Y., has a bachelor of science degree and is an associate in dental hygiene from Onondaga Community College in Syracuse, N.Y.

Their practice teaching is under direct supervision, Ms Heysek said.

Slosh, slosh, slosh

Umbrellas and rainwear were the order of the day for picketing support staff strikers who walked off the job Wednesday after negotiations for more money broke down. The heave downpour pelted the picketers all day. Light snow greeted the morning shift Thursday but it turned to slush as temperatures rose and the line walkers sloshed through ankle-deep pools at some entrances to the Woodlawn campus. (Photo by Ventresca)

Provide picket escorts : Robarts

Student and staff members will be provided with a personal escort from members of the management team if they feel intimidated by the picket line, Jacqueline Robarts, college president, said.

Although the support staff does not have the right to prevent students and staff members from crossing the picket line, the one question being asked is what would happen if someone was harassed, Miss Robarts said.

Students and staff members need only phone Miss Robarts or Glenn Pevere, personnel officer, and a personal escort will be arranged through the line and to one of the college entrances.

Miss Robarts said she doubted if there would be any problems crossing the line, saying it was mainly the fear of the unknown that caused the mental attitude.

Other members of the management team who may be called upon are: A. S. Aboud, director of student services; Jack Spittle, manager of plant and property; Graham McKinnon, director of college services; G. LaRose, treasurer; I. J. Giancarlo, dean of applied arts; Arnot McIntee, dean of business; Dr. William Stuart, dean of technology; and Fred Habermehl, dean of health sciences.

Welland Vale staff picket in freezing rain

Freezing rain may have kept retraining students away from the Welland Vale Centre last Wednesday morning, but it certainly didn't deter the efforts of 14 support staff picketers.

Welland Vale's 11 support staff members, along with three main campus staffers, started to picket the satellite campus at 7:30.

Desmond McCurry, divisional chairman at Welland Vale, said about 90 per cent of the retraining students arrived at the school by noon that day. Most had been detained by the hazardous driving conditions.

Harry Cornett, dean of retraining, said none of the instructors were detained by the weather or the picket line.

The two support staff members of the Horticulture division didn't come to work Wednesday. There were no picketers there.

Launches protest

Retraining charges UIC cutbacks unfair

ByPETER EPP
Staff Writer

More than 20 per cent of retraining students at Welland Vale Centre have written a letter to their member of parliament protesting the federal cutback in unemployment insurance, Stan DeWitt, president of the student committee said.

The students are also petitioning against late cheques from the government, poor subsidization from the government for transportation costs, and jobs lost to imported skilled tradesmen that could be held by retraining students.

The unemployment insurance cutback, which came into effect Jan. 7, "does not make any justifiable sense," Howard Wilson, a retraining student at Welland Vale and head of the ad hoc committee to petition the cutback, said.

Mr. Wilson said the cutback is unfair for retraining students since "they're trying to better themselves."

Last December the federal government announced the unemployment insurance benefits and allowance cutbacks which came into effect earlier this month.

Retraining students who receive unemployment insurance will only receive 60 per cent of their gross earnigs instead of the customary two-thirds. "The initially large wage-earners will not b e affected that much but small wage-earners will be left holding the bag since they don't earn a large sum of money in the first place," Mr. Wilson said.

COLLECTED LETTERS

The ad hoc committee, formed three weeks ago to organize a petition against the cutbacks, has already collected students' letters to be sent to various members of parliament.

Mr. DeWitt said he is trying to get the public aware of the student's dilemma in trying to survive on the remaining allowance. "This is just not a wage to live one," he said.

The ad hoc committee is also trying to get a number of MPs together for a student forum at the Welland Vale Centre. Mr. DeWitt said he would like each MP to give a 15-minute speech and then hold a question-and-answer period with the retraining students.

He said he and Mr. Wilson are also trying to establish a rapport with the 21 other retraining centres in the province about the allowance cutback.

'BELOW POVERTY LEVEL'

Michael Vanier, an academic upgrading student and member of the ad hoc committee, said the present allowance given to the retraining students is "far below the poverty level as far as I'm concerned."

Under the federal cutback a retraining student living with an employed parent or spouse receives $10 a week where he used to receive $45; a retraining student living alone with no dependents receives $60 a week instead of the customary $79 and a retraining student with three dependents takes a cut of $2 from $97. A retraining student with three dependents receives a $7 increase to $110, and a retraining student with four dependents or more receives a $16 dollar increase to $125.

Mr. Wilson said a good percentage of the retraining students have families and living on an allotted allowance is hard enough. "A normal living requires more money. The cost of living goes up 17 per cent and they cut us back 6⅓."

PROTEST LATE CHEQUES

Another aspect of the retraining allowance the students are protesting is late cheques. Mr. Vanier said many people did not receive cheques in time for Christmas. He showed a letter written by a 40-year-old mother who, on Dec. 22, still had not received her retraining allowance from the government.

Mr. Vanier also said the travelling allowance allotted to students is insufficient to pay for transportation costs. Each retraining student, he said, is given a transportaion allowance of seven cents a mile for over 15 miles of travel to school each day.

Travelling from Niagara Falls every day, Mr. DeWitt said he needed at least $6 a day. Instead he said he receives $1.75 every two weeks from the federal government for travelling expenses. "I'm awful careful not to spend it all in one place," he joked.

Mr. Wilson said he saw a classmate's cheque for travelling expenses and was amazed to find the cheque made out for 10 cents. The student originally received 75 cents a week, he said, but 65 cents was deducted without any explanation.

"That cheque probably cost the taxpayers $15 to process," he said.

Come to the cabaret at festival

A cabaret production may be presented by theatre students at the Celebrate Canada festival in place of Babel Rap which will not appear, John Rapsey, theatre arts co-ordinator, said.

The cabaret, which is being rehearsed, will present a series of small vignettes taken from an anthology of 1890s material and burlesque material from the 1920s and 1930s, Mr. Rapsey said. The cabaret, which satirizes 1890 melodrama, will use the bare minimum of costumes, lighting and props.

Mr. Rapsey said Babel Rap will not be appearing at the festival because the setup for the play is too large.

"The light and sound is too large except for a full theatre presentation."

He said he hopes the cabaret, which has not yet been named, will be presented at an old people's home. He said he is thinking about presenting a full cabaret dinner theatre next year.

Vandalism, disorder at Welland Vale

Stan DeWitt, president of the student committee at Welland Vale Centre, says certain areas of the satellite campus look "like a pigsty."

Vandalism and general "rowdiness" are responsible for the condition of the main hallway on the first floor and that floor's men's washroom, he said.

Stan said the stalls in the first floor washroom have been broken loose and toilet paper dispensers ripped off the wall. He said some of the sink taps don't work and some are broken off.

"This washroom has been torn apart for a long time," he said.

Stan said the very same washroom was flooded about a month ago when someone repeatedly flushed the toilets in the washroom directly above it. "We couldn't use the washroom at all," he said. "Water was coming down like it was raining."

Stan said the main hallway on the first floor "usually looks like a pigsty" because students are throwing coffee down the hall, and placing $2 to $4 bets on who can throw the farthest. He said the coffee vending machine in the hallway will be moved to the cafeteria.

The contents of a sandwich vending machine were stolen two weeks ago when it was broken into, Stan said. Three weeks before the front had been smashed in by vandals.

Strike causes interior design trip cancellation

A tour of three Toronto firms by Niagara College interior design students scheduled for Jan. 27 was cancelled because of the support staff strike, Paul Firlotte, interior design co-ordinator, said.

All community colleges offering interior design and Ryerson Polytechnical Institute students were to visit a carpet mill, wood manufacturing company and showroom and the executive offices of the new Royal Bank head office. The trip was cancelled because most colleges have their own buses driven by support staff members.

Niagara rents a bus for field trips and Mr. Firlotte said the trip will be rescheduled after the strike is settled.

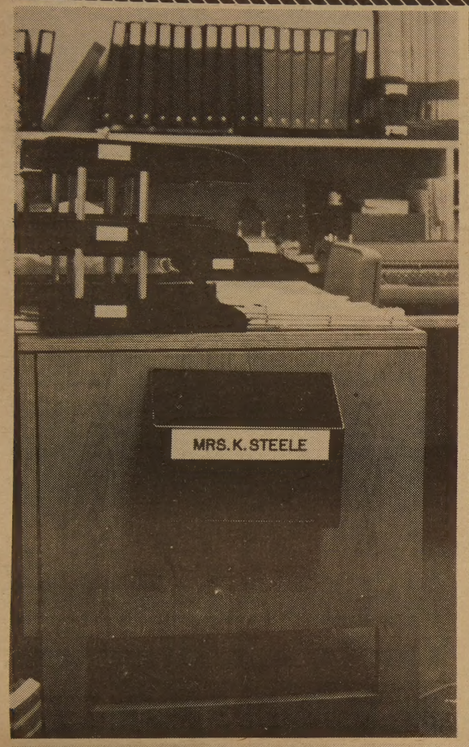
First, second and third year students were planning to go on the trip, lasting from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

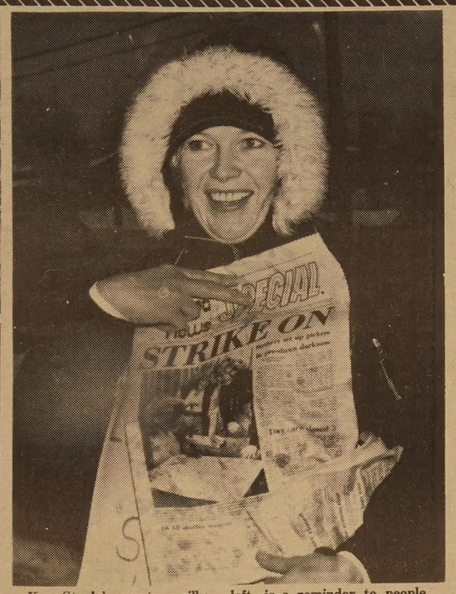
Taxis honor picket line

Cabs of 4500 Taxi in Welland are refusing to cross support staff picket lines to discharge passengers because the company does not want to hurt relations with the public, Phil Bordeau, manager, said.

A student riding in a cab Wednesday morning heard the dispatcher repeatedly warn cab drivers against crossing the picket lines. Instead, the drivers were instructed to leave passengers by the road. Mr. Bordeau said the company wanted to be careful how it acted during the strike.

Day 1 of strike: support staff pickets slog through downpour

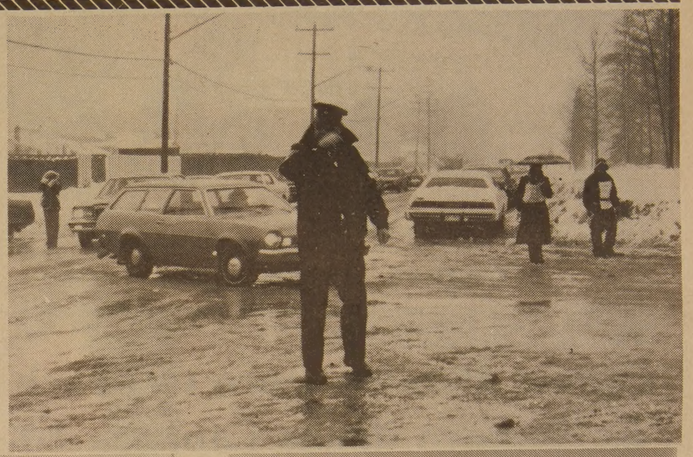




Kay Steele's empty mailbox, left, is a reminder to people walking through the applied arts section of the Simcoe building that there are no secretaries at work. Mrs. Steele, along with most of the other support staff members at Niagara, walked off their jobs Wednesday morning. Above, Mrs. Steele proudly displays the Strike edition of the Niagara News, in the teeming rain at the main entrance to the college. Support staff have been working without a contract since the end of August and are asking for higher wages and better fringe benefits.

Pickets walk, police talk

Left, support staff members braved slippery sidewalks and freezing rain as they picketed in front of the Welland Vale Centre on the first day of the strike. A total of 14 members picketed the satellite campus. Right, support staff members, picketing on Woodlawn Road, were told by police they would be charged with obstructing traffic if they prevented cars from entering the college parking lot. Picketers were stopping cars on Wednesday, the first day of the strike, to solicit support when police, called because of a car accident, told strikers not to block the road. Police were busy directing traffic on Rice Road when picketers blocked the entrance with care.



Photos by

Peter Epp

Pam Righton

Doug Smith

Eddi Ventresca

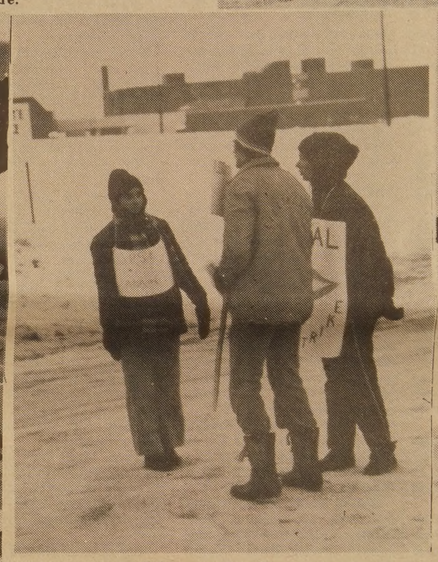
Joe Wallace

Picketers slow traffic

First day pickets slowed up traffic but didn't stop students and faculty from entering the Woodlawn campus. Only seven faculty on all campuses missed classes Wednesday and there were six absentees on Thursday. Jacqueline Robarts, college president, said legitimate reasons, including illness, were given by the absentees. Instructors reported near-full classes on both days. The weather, more than the picket lines, seemed to have deterred students from coming. Freezing rain hit the area making highways slippery and treacherous for the better part of the morning.

Bus drivers honor pickets

Students using public transit have been getting off on Woodlawn Road instead of the east side behind the Merritt Building as the Welland Transit drivers are honoring the support staff picket lines. Welland Transit spokesman Joe Hrechanyk said the drivers, members of the Amalgamated Transit Union, support the strike, now in its third day.

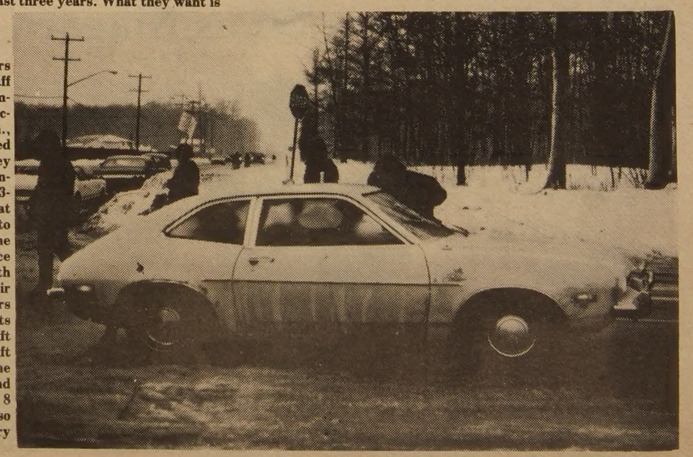


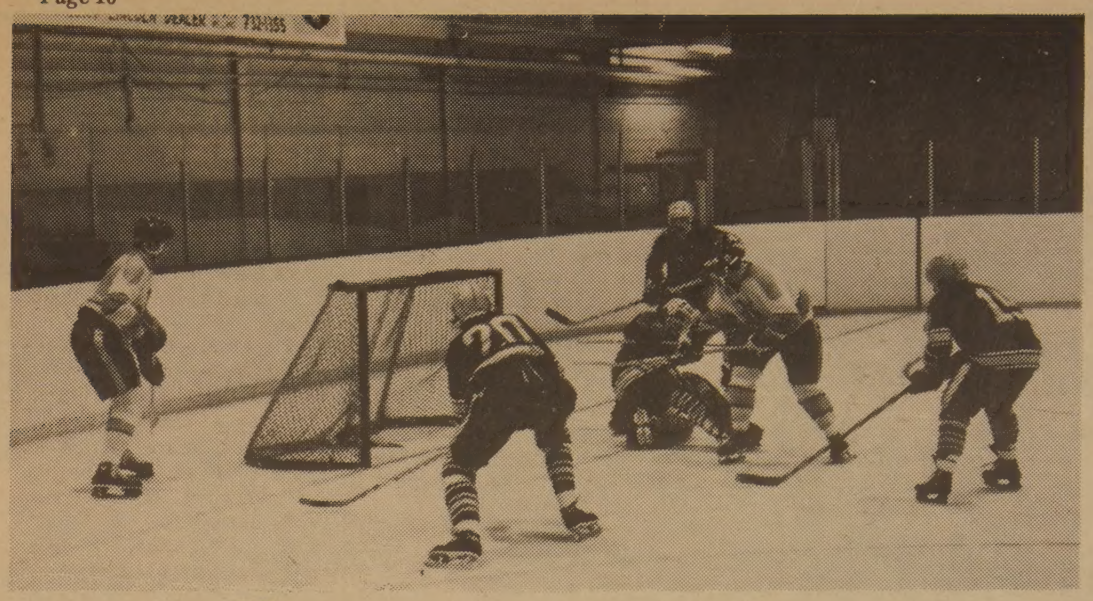
Hand out literature to passing cars

Support staff pickets, right, look as if they are memorizing strike songs, but they aren't. They're reading bulletins that are to be handed out to people crossing the picket lines. The bulletin outlines what they want and why they are on strike. The bulletin says federal anti-inflation controls have forced the support staff union to accept a 2.78 per cent wage increase until Dec. 31, 1978, and they have borne the brunt of federal controls in the last three years. What they want is a total of 10 per cent for eight months — a 2.25 per cent fringe benefit package and a 7.75 per cent increase effective Jan. 1. The last part of the bulletin says they have been left behind before, but not this time. Picketers, left, seems as if they are planning strategy. Either that, or they're talking about how nice it would be to be in a warm dry place on such a cold wet day.

Stop cars

Striking support staff members try to solicit support from staff and students entering the campus Wednesday morning. Pickets were set up at 7:30 a.m., and at some locations caused traffic problems, because they were stopping cars and explaining their situation. The 123-member support staff unit at Niagara has been divided into two groups, "A" and "B". The strikers were out in full force Wednesday and Thursday, with both groups picketing at their specified locations. The strikers will work in three hour shifts starting at 8 a.m. The first shift ends at 11 a.m. The second shift goes from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., the third from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., and the last runs from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Picketers will alternate so they will be on the line every second day.





Niagara scores again

The Knights get ready to drive another goal home during their 10-4 trouncing of the Canisius Griffins. The win strengthened the Knights' hold on first place in the Finger Lakes Intercollegiate Hockey League and ran their record to 10-1-1.

Carter, Belaire score two each as Niagara drubs Canisius 10-4

By ROBERT BRODIE
Staff Writer

Lari Carter and Brett Belaire scored two goals each as the Niagara Knights overcame a sluggish start with a second period explosion to trounce Canisius Golden Griffins 10-4 in a hockey game in Welland Jan. 20.

The game was almost a carbon copy of the previous week's battle against Erie, as the Knights fell behind early but had a big second period.

"We didn't let down in the third period this time, though," Knights' coach Fred Bassi said.

Niagara's win increased their lead in the Finger Lakes Collegiate Hockey League to four points. The Knights' record now stands at 10-1-1, while the Griffins are 8-2-1.

Unlike most of their previous games, Niagara did not receive the bulk of their scoring from the league's top line of Mike Chartrand, Randy Kerr and Paul Berstling, although each did score once.

Other Knight marksmen included Belaire and Carter, who scored a pair each, and Andy Cieri, Mark Patterson and Terry Chayka. Berstling and Kerr set up three goals apiece.

The Canisius goals, all scored on power plays, were tallied by Jon Christiano, Chuck Roessler, Bill Lovelock and Mark Wagner.

EARLY FRUSTRATION

The first period was a frustrating one for Niagara, as the Griffins kept them off balance with their skating superiority. Penalties also hurt the Knights, but excellent penalty killing and the goaltending of Malcolm Pennell kept them in the game.

Pennell recently regained his eligibility, which will allow Niagara to return to a two-goaltender system.

"Malcolm is a good goaltender, and so is Jimmy (Pearce)," Bassi said. "Jim had to play all three games last weekend, so another goaltender will help get him some rest."

Pennell and Canisius netminder Cookie Gonzalez traded saves on breakaways early in the game before the former was beaten for a goal on Roessler's deflection of Marty Maryan's shot from the point at 2:38.

Canisius gained a two-man advantage seven minutes later, and cashed in the opportunity as an unguarded Lovelock knocked home a Maryan rebound.

Roessler was robbed minutes later on Pennell's best save of the period, a sprawling glove save at the last second.

Kerr got Niagara's only goal of the period as he deflected Sebestiany's high shot from the point past Gonzalez with defenceman Ed hartman on his back.

Niagara came out strong in the second period and took only 3½ minutes to tie the game. Belaire scored on a high backhand and then the Knights went to war.

Andy Cieri put the Knights ahead a minute later on a power play goal, taking a pass from Patterson and firing a quick shot past Gonzalez low on the glove side.

AHEAD 5 GOALS

Chayka took a pass from Chartrand off the boards and fired it in to give Niagara a 4-2 lead at 5:57. Carter, Patterson and Berstling scored before the period ended to give the Knights a five-goal lead.

Niagara held back at the beginning of the third period, allowing Canisius some excellent scoring chances. Pennell was brilliant, stopping Al Koeppel cold on a breakaway.

However, it was the Knights who got the goals, with Carter tallying his second marker on a backhand after an excellent pass from Chayka.

Belaire scored his second goal less than two minutes later, taking a pass from Cieri and outmanoeuvring Gonzalez to put the puck in.

Canisius got two quick goals with six minutes to play, but Chartrand replied with a goal at 19:06.

Niagara outshot the Griffins 36-30 in the game and was penalized 16 times to six for Canisius.

SPORTS

She won't forget first time skiing

By BETH SWINIMER
Staff Writer

All the book said I needed was enthusiasm and a desire to be fit. They neglected to say cross-country skiers also need co-ordination, agility and a fairly knowledgeable instructor.

I decided before Christmas to join the thousands across Canada keeping fit through cross-country skiing but I was plagued by poor weather and health. Last weekend I decided I was going to go come rain or shine.

I did go, and it did rain, and I must admit it was an experience I may never forget.

It took me at least 15 minutes to get used to the boots needed for the sport — low, ankle-type boots of hard leather with an extended square moulded sole, standardized to fit the two and three pin Scandanavian "rattrap" bindings—not my normal choice in footwear.

A guide to cross-country skiing published by SunLife of Canada says the boot should fit snugly, with "one very light pair of wool knee socks. You pair of wool knee socks. You should be able to wiggle your toes, but your heel should not lift from the insole."

OLD PRO

It finally came time to brave the freezing rain and my instructor, who ensured me she was an "old pro at the game," grabbed the skis and poles and we stepped outdoors.

Newer boots and skis are interchangeable, with most bindings being the new two and three pin Scandinavian type — "marvels in simplicity," the guide says.

"Just push the point of the pole into the hole in the metal binding and slip your boot into place," my instructor said.

Easy enough for her to say.

Before I finally got my skis on, I had fallen twice, dropped the poles once, and threatened to give up the sport three times.

At last I was ready, watching my instructor gliding over the crust of the frozen snow, I recalled the words in SunLife's beginners guide: "in many ways it is like skating. And the push/glide motion of the skater is the basis for the cross-country ski stride.

"Naturally, arm swing, length of stride and technical aspects involving turning, stopping and climbing have to be learned. In other words, you don't just shuffle along or trudge through the forest, a long board on each foot," the guide says.

FIRST TRY

Pushing myself on my poles, I began slowly to try to skate with my new "boards" attached. The first few steps were easy, until my ankles weakened, my pace slowed down and my skis began to cross.

After many more attempts at gliding over the snow, I decided to throw in the biscuit. Not only was the rain beginning to fall in torrents, but every bone in my body was beginning to ache from the constant up and down motion as I constantly fell and picked myself up to begin again.

Few activities can help improve your cardiovascular fitness as much as cross-country skiing. It exercises both your upper and lower body and the training effect is continuous.

It is interesting to know that cross-country skiing gives you four times as good a workout as alpine skiing because you supply all the motive power, the SunLife guide says. You can spend an average of 80 per cent of your time waiting in liftlines in alpine skiing, but in cross-country skiing, "When you put on your skis, you begin exercising; when you take them off, you've finished exercising."

Actually, cross-country skiing is not as bad as it may seem. With a little more practice, I may even become successful and really enjoy it. But, for now at least, I'll stick to cross-country skiing in my dreams.

Couloigner nets 20 as Niagara beats Cambrian 58-49

For 15 games this year, the Niagara Knights men's basketball team has relied heavily on one player—Ted Kicinski— to do the bulk of the scoring. Many fans feared the worst if he went and didn't score. But these fears were put to rest last Saturday.

With Kicinski having an off night, the Knights got a stellar 20-point performance from exciting guard Bruno Couloigner as they dumped the Cambrian Colts 58-49 in OCAA action.

The Knights continued their late season surge, winning their second game against only one loss since the Christmas break. The loss was a narrow four-point defeat at the hands of the nationally-ranked Centennial Colts while the team has beaten Conestoga along with Cambrian.

BRUNO COULOIGNER

Couloigner, besides doing his scoring magic, showed a new dimension to his game by tearing down rebounds as if he was 6'8". His help on the offensive glass led to numerous second shots and easy baskets for Niagara.

It was one of his offensive rebounds with less than one minute left that sealed the win for Niagara.

The Knights almost wasted a 16-point lead as they couldn't put the pesky Colts away when they had the chance.

The homesters led 46-30 with 10 minutes left in the contest, but the Colts rallied to within five with 1½ minutes left, mainly on the inside scoring of Simo Sormaz.

WERE OUTSCORED

During one seven-minute stretch, the Knights were outscored 17-6 and were playing much like a shorthanded hockey team. The ball hardly ever got out of Niagara's end and when Cambrian did score the Knights made costly turnovers in their backcourt.

Kicinski, who scored 14 points but wasn't the dominant force he usually is, missed his first seven shots of the game, throwing up a wide array of misses.

Niagara also got steady floor leadership and clutch foul-shooting from Tim Chambers, who added 11 points to the cause.

Cambrian's offence was all John Cristo in the first half but the Colts got a more balanced attack in the final 20 minutes.

Cristo had 12 points in the first half, but added only five in the second half to end the game with 17. He got into foul trouble early in the final half and his offensive play slacked off as a result.

MAIN THREAT

The main offensive threat for Cambrian in the second half was Simo Sormaz, who had all nine of his points then. He led the Colt surge that brought them back to within striking distance with a variety of lay-ups and short jump shots.

The teams were even through the first part of the game, as Niagara scored repeatedly on fast breaks to take a 28-23 half time lead. Cristo kept Cambrian close with long range jump shots.

Apart from Couloigner, Kicinski and Chambers, Mike Czerlau had eight points, Wilf Muller four and Harold Ross tossed in one free throw to round out the scoring for Niagara.

MAYS ENSHRINED

Willie Mays garnered enough votes for entrance to the baseball Hall of Fame this year

'Basketball popularity increasing' - Larry Cote

By ROBERT BRODIE
Staff Writer

In a country where ice hockey is a national passion, Larry Cote is one man who prefers a bouncing basketball to a hockey puck.

Mr. Cote, program co-ordinator, marketing management, has been associated with minor basketball in Welland for five years. He is now an executive of the Welland Minor Basketball Association.

"I coached an elementary school team about five years ago in Welland because they had no coach," he said. "My interest continued as a result of my own children playing the sport in school."

"I enjoy community involvement and I like the sport," he said.

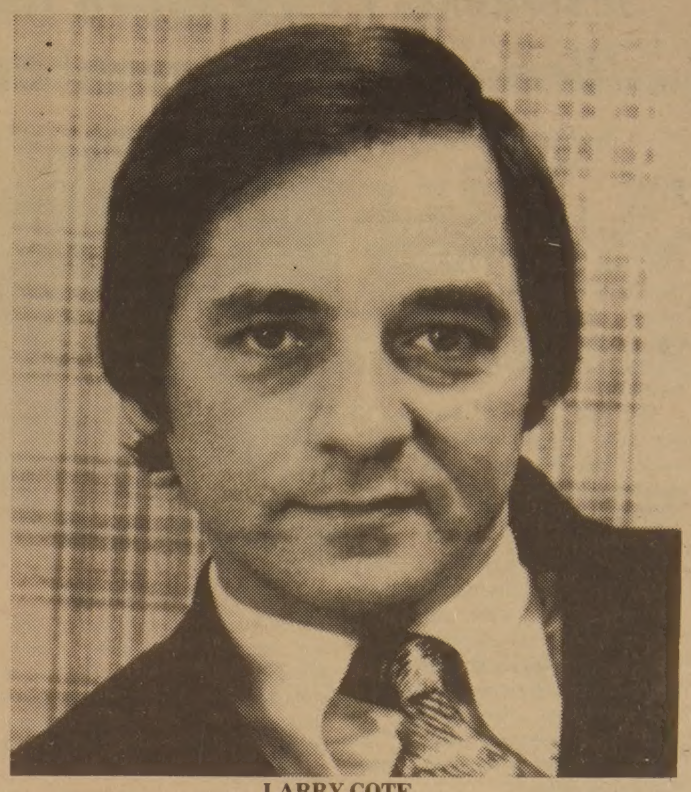
Mr. Cote, a Welland resident, said the popularity of basketball is increasing in Canada.

"It is enjoying a remarkable growth. As we get access to more and more gyms, people will become interested.

"It is a very inexpensive sport for children. All you need are a pair of gym shorts, shoes and a T-shirt and you're in."

Mr. Cote said minor basketball is an association for children in the community similar to that of minor hockey.

"They learn the fundamentals and how to play basketball. It is not affiliated with any church or school."



LARRY COTE

He said the fundamentals taught add to those learned in elementary school, and assist in the development of skills which will be used later in high school, college and/or university.

There are 250 registered players in Welland in leagues up to the midget level (age 16).

Mr. Cote accompanied a bantam team (ages 12-13), which included his son, to the Brookwood Basketball Association, Montreal, included 24 teams from the Maritimes, Ontario, Quebec, and New York.

The select team, called the Welland Warriors, beat every team until losing in the finals to a team from New York.

Mr. Cote said there is a difference, though not an organizational one, between minor basketball in the United States and Canada.

"They (Americans) devote more time and resources to the development of the sport. It is not nearly as popular in Canada, where it is exclusively an amateur sport.

"In the United States, university scholarships and professional basketball are real possibilities, and more emphasis is placed on the game."

He said the United States, traditionally a strong power in basketball, has the advantage of more facilities.

They have more gyms and the facilities are wider spread, which makes it a self-perpetuating kind of thing."

Mr. Cote said a strong comparison can be drawn between basketball in the United States and hockey in Canada.

"Both sports are carried on television in their respective countries, which prompts great interest in the games."

Mr. Cote, originally from Niagara Falls, said he had played basketball intramurally himself since grammar school.

"I tried to make the varsity team at a school with a strong basketball program (Notre Dame College High School, Welland), but was unsuccessful."

He said he had "hung out with many good basketball players" during his school days at St. Patrick's in Niagara Falls and at Notre Dame.

SPORTS

Winter sports

Sure way to keep fit

By CHERYL GARD and BETH SWINIMER
Staff Writers

Flab is out and fitness is in for 1979. Winter sports activities are a sure way to keep in shape and cure those winter blues.

Cross-country and alpine skiing, tobogganing, skating and snowmobiling are just some of the ways to enjoy the snowy Canadian winters.

Cross-country skiing is fast becoming the most popular recreational activity, according to area sports shops.

Karen Bedard, of Cupolo's Sports Ltd. in Niagara Falls, said cross-country skiing is a "good family sport" because there are no expenses beyond the initial price of equipment and virtually any age group can participate.

Cupolo's sells ski packages which include boots, poles and skis starting at $89.95 up to $120.95.

Cross-country packages range in price from $79.95 to $89.95 at Niagara Cycle and Sports in St. Catharines. Sales clerk Tom Smalle believes this generation is more conscious of being fit, and cross-country skiing offers "a chance for family togetherness and fun" at the same time.

He said fibreglass skis cause fewer problems than wooden skis because they "take more punishment and stand up longer." He described cross-country as "a slow shuffle — if you can walk, you can ski."

Alpine or downhill skiing is more expensive and does not appeal to such a wide range of ages. Ski packages at Cupolo's vary in price from $180 to $600. Miss Bedard said that while both types of skiing involve skill, cross-country is "more strenuous."

SKATING, ANYONE?

For those who prefer skating, Niagara Cycle and Sports sells Bauer and Daoust figure skates from $50 to $85. Hockey buffs can pick up hockey skates for about $100.

Figure skates at Cupolo's range in price from $27.95 to $150. Hockey skates are priced from $25 to $130. However, Miss Bedard recommended that families with growing children buy second-hand skates.

Facilities for cross-country and alpine skiing can be found throughout the region. At the Bridgewater Golf Course in Fort Erie, cross-country ski equipment can be rented for $6 a day and package deals are also available. Rentals are $18 for a weekend and $24 per week.

Instruction is available and trails are groomed and marked. There are four rest stops along the 20-km trail. The club house and skiing area is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. with no charge to skiers with their own equipment.

At the Whirlpool Golf Course in Niagara Falls, there are three trails totalling 10 kms and services are also available. Ski rentals for adults (over 14) are $6 between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. and $4 between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. during the week. Children's rentals are $4 in the morning and $2 in the afternoon. Weekend prices are $6 for adults and $4 for children.

For alpine ski fans, Lookout Point in Fonthill offers excellent facilities. Rental prices range from $6.50 to $7, with an additional cost of $4 for a lift ticket. Lessons for beginners are also available.

The slopes are open Wednesday and Thursday nights from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Public skating is offered at most area arenas for an average price of $1 for adults, 75 cents for students, and 50 cents for children.

Area golf courses are popular spots for family tobogganing and in Niagara Falls, Firemen's Park is a favorinte centre for many outdoor winter sports.

Snowmobiling is banned on most golf courses, Queen Victoria Park, Queenston Heights and the Niagara Parks Commission (NPC) School of Horticulture grounds.

It is allowed in the 153 acres south of Dufferin Islands between Portage Road and Niagara Parkway, and the 47 acres bounded by Cairns Crescent opposite the NPC marina in Fort Erie.

Even a brisk walk in the snow will keep you in shape for the summer ahead.

Chartrand leads scorers

With two-thirds of the season now history, Mike Chartrand is far and away the leading scorer on Niagara's varsity hockey team.

The Niagara centre leads the team in goals (20), assists (24) and points (44). Chartrand has been on the rampage ever since Knights' coach Fred Bassi switched him to a line with Paul Berstling and Randy Kerr.

Chartrand's closest pursuer is Berstling who has 16 goals and 35 points. Kerr who has missed two games, stands third with a total of 12 goals and 27 points.

Rounding out the top five scorers are linemates Steve Bustard and Keith Bull with 19 and 17 points respectively. Mark Patterson is the only other double-digit goal scorer, having netted 11.

A recent scoring spurt has made Don Marinelli Niagara's top scoring defenceman. He has tallied four goals among his 11 points.

Ladies win, men beaten, in exhibition basketball

It was a night half filled with success as the Niagara Knights' varsity basketball team split a doubleheader with D'Youville College of Buffalo Jan. 18.

The ladies' team broke out to a 19-8 halftime lead and went on to whip their American guest 45-19.

The men's team was not as successful as they fell behind 33-29 at the intermission on their way to a 68-57 loss at the hands of D'Youville.

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SPORTS

Stop! Come back here

No, these ladies are not waving goodbye to the basketball or ordering it to stop, but are anticipating the result of one shot taken by Seneca during their 52-25 romp over Niagara. Here, Loretta Bransch shoots over an unidentified Niagara player, one of the may shots she got off during the evening. Bransch and teammate Leslie Dalcin combined to give Seneca an overwhelming advantage over the game, but undermanned Niagara team. (Photo by Smith)

Ladies thrash Cambrian 60-25

Sczelecki, Petro spark defensive effort

'Best game of season' Stevenson says

By DOUG SMITH
Staff Writer

The Niagara Knights ladies basketball team turned in "one of our best games of the season" here last Saturday as they clobbered the hapless Cambrian Colts 60-25 as part of a Niagara-Cambrian basketball twinbill.

"By and large, it was one of our best games of the season," coach Russ Stevenson said. "We achieved what we wanted to and everything worked out fairly well."

The Knights' threw a variety of zone and man-to-man defences at the Colts, and each one confused the visitors even more.

"We tried three or four different zones on defence and different offenses throughout the game," Stevenson said. "The defence, which is our good point, looked excellent."

SET TWO GOALS

The Knights set two goals for the game — to score 60 points and hold Cambrian to less than 20. Although they reached their offensive goal, they couldn't limit the Colts to 20 points. "But, you cannot begrudge anyone 25 points in 40 minutes of basketball," Stevenson said.

Spearheading the defensive effort were Cathy Sczeleki and Nancy Petro. The duo forced numerous turnovers at the top of the Niagara zone and made quite a few steals as well.

Julie Cecco took care of the offensive work for Niagara, taking game-high scoring honors with 18 points. One indication of the thoroughness of the rout was that Cecco and Sczeleki combined to outscore the entire Colt team 30-25.

CATHY SCZELECKI

NANCY PETRO

The Knights dominated the backboards and the transition from defence to offence was excellent and resulted in a lot of fast-break lay-ups.

JUST WAITED

Niagara ran up an 18 — 2 lead in the first six minutes of the contest and from there on it was just another matter of waiting for the final buzzer before the massacre was stopped.

Cambrian only had two shots in the first six minutes as the Niagara defence completely shut down any semblance of offence the Colts had.

Cecco with 18, Sczelecki with 12 and hustling Barb Cort with 11 ponts were tops for Niagara. Petro combined excellent defence with eight points for the day, while Val Nieuwesteeg and Anne Rossi had four each and Erica Butler added three to round out the Niagara attack.

Nobody hit for double figures for Cambrian as Shar Piotto led the Colts with seven points. The less said about the Cambrian offence, the better, as it was simply outclassed by the Knights in all facets of the game.

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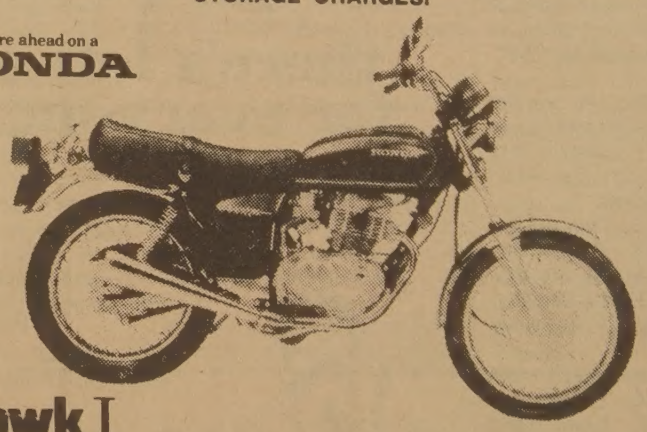

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Seneca proves too tough as women dumped 52-27

The Seneca Braves proved to be too tall and too good for the Niagara Knights ladies basketball team as they thrashed the Knights 52-27 in OCAA action at Niagara Tuesday night.

The Braves, buoyed by a surge in the last eight minutes of the first half that saw them outscore Niagara 16-1, won the battle of the backboards and with it the game.

It was 6' 3" Loretta Bransch that did the bulk of the damage on the backbords for Seneca, as she repeatedly pulled down rebounds and made easy second shots.

When she wasn't gathering rebounds for points, Bransch was getting pinpoint passes from classy guard Leslie Dalcin for three- and four-foot jump shots.

TOOK COMMAND

The Knights led 14-13 with eight minutes left in the first half but Seneca, led by Dalcin and Bransch, went off on a tear to take command of the game. The Knights never recovered from the onslaught and never got back in the game.

Seneca had a hard time getting the ball to Bransch in the early going but a slight change in their offensive strategy allowed for easy passes and even easier shots.

Despite Niagara's tenacious defence on Dalcin, who was easily the best player on the floor, she got loose enough times to score 15 points herself and set up teammates for many more.

Seneca combined zone and man-to-man defences to confuse the Knights. Niagara was unable to work a set offence against either defence and could not come up with a consistent attack.

DREW FOULS

The Knights were able to draw fouls on the two key Seneca players (Dalcin and Bransch) but they were careful while in foul trouble and didn't lose anything offensively.

The foul-filled game saw Seneca take command with the 16-point outburst and go on to bury the Knights in the second half.

Besides controlling the backboards, Bransch was a demon on defence, blocking six shots and clogging up the free-throw lane so Niagara could get no inside shots.

For Niagara, only Erica Buller could hit double figures in scoring as she had 10 points. Julie Cecco had five, Nancy Petro and Cathy Sczelecki four each, Barb Cort had three and Val Nieuwesteeg chipped in one free throw to round out the scoring.

Janet Pearen led all scorers with 16 points for Seneca. Teammate Brends Byman had 15, while Dalcin with eight, and Bransch with 13 capped off the Brave attack.

Young Spittle joins pro tour

Rod Spittle, son of Jack Spittle, Niagara's property and plant manager, has turned professional and will be playing in several golf mini-tours in Florida until mid-April, Mr. Spittle said.

"He's earning his expenses through winning," Mr. Spittle said.

Rod is the 1978 Canadian Amateur Golf Champion.

College doctor is in?

Some service available

The Health Centre was closed on the first day of the support staff strike, but the doctor is expected to have regular office hours today.

A notice on the outside door instructed students with medical problems who have no family doctor to get in touch with Evelyn Gay, Hennepin Hall, Dr. Gerald Alexander, or the emergency department of the Welland General Hospital.

Allergy extracts can be picked up from Counselling Services.

Students are also advised to consult the Medical Emergency Procedures posted on most college bulletin boards.

TAKE THE CHALLENGE

GET TOGETHER AND PARTICIPATE

IN THIS YEAR'S WINTER CARNIVAL

FEB 5 – FEB 10

SAC'S CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MON. FEB. 5.	TUES. FEB. 6.	WED. FEB. 7.	THURS. FEB. 8.	FRI. FEB. 9.	SAT. FEB. 10
PIE EATING CONTEST	FILM DAY "SMOKIE AND THE BANDIT" IN THE HAMILTON RM 12:00 NOON	EUCHRE TOURNAMENT	VOLLEYBALL TOURN	PANCAKE DAY	"SUPER-" PUB with STREETHEART
TUG OF WAR	VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT	BEARD GROWING CONTEST		SNOW BASEBALL	students: $2.00 guests: $2.50

COME ON INTO THE S.A.C. OFFICE AND SIGN UP FOR ANY NUMBER OF EVENTS. TIMES OF EVENTS WILL BE POSTED INSIDE THE OFFICE.

SAC wants raise, need student vote

By DOUG SMITH
Staff Writer

The Student Administrative Council (SAC) will try to have classes vote separately on proposed amendments to the constitution so that the necessary five per cent of the students will cast ballots.

At a general meeting last Tuesday, the council, with about 40 students, discussed ways of getting the necessary number of students to cast ballots.

SAC has tried twice to publicize general meetings to that they could amend the constitution. Twice, not enough students have turned up.

SAC has decided to disribute ballots to class representatives to enable students to vote in class, and not have to attend a meeting to decide the question.

INCREASE HONORARIUMS

The major amendment is to increase honorariums for council members to perhaps $80 a month from $40, Jeff Adamson, SAC president, said.

The raise in honorariums "will bring ours up to par" with most other community colleges, Jeff said. Sir Sandford Fleming College in Peterborough is about the same size as Niagara and SAC members there get $80 a month.

"Basically, honorariums are for payment for the job that you do for the students," Jeff said. The raise, if passed, would be retroactive to September.

Other changes will be to include the club convener on the SAC executive, a post that works as a liaison between different college clubs and SAC. The club convener is now Gail Caperchione.

COMBINE TWO POSTS

Also proposed is a change that will combine the two secretarial posts that are included in the SAC executive now.

A full-time secretary, Debby Liddycoat, is working in the SAC office and the two positions are no longer needed on the executive.

SAC also wants to change the required percentage to three per cent from five so future changes can be made more easily.

The meeting was attended by about 40 students, making it the largest general meeting of the year. SAC distributed letters of invitation to all class representatives so that their ideas could be heard.

Another letter will be sent to the classes when the ballots are ready for distribution.

Discrimination doesn't daunt Niagara College tech woman

By MARY KOZIELLO
Staff Writer

Doris Mattie, 21, will be the first woman graduate from Niagara College in computer engineering technology.

During her three years in the program Doris has managed to "keep up the good work." With an overall average of 3, she considers herself an A-student.

Her parents neither encouraged nor discouraged her about the course. Doris took a year off after high school before making her decision to come to college.

She decided to specialize in computer engineering because of her interest in mathematics and computers. She thought she'd be different from the rest of the girls she knew who went into data processing.

SOME DISCRIMINATION

Doris said she, like some other women in technology programs, has had to contend with some discrimination. In her first year, she had to learn how to ignore an instructor who held the stereotyped attitude that "women's place is in the kitchen."

That year there were girls in her general [illegible]ogy classes. She said it quickly became apparent to her and the other girls that the instructor felt that women had no place in a so-called "man's field." Doris did her work and just hurried "to get out of the class."

DORIS MATTIE

She said his attitude remained unchanged until the end of the term when he saw that some girls were "doing better than the guys."

When the technology courses became specialized, she found herself "a bit nervous" being the only female. Doris said, "They treat you like one of the boys and I had to get used to that."

'YOU, TOO'

She remembers sitting in class with some instructor saying, "Okay, guys, get to work." Doris said she would stare at the instructor until he said, "Okay, Doris, you, too."

At first her fellow students were careless about their language around her. She said at times they still forget but have learned to be more careful.

Doris works part time at Radio Shack and has encountered some discrimination there also. She said men come in looking for something, pass her by and go to a male clerk. She thinks they probably feel she doesn't know anything. Doris doesn't allow such attitudes to bother her.

OVERCAME DIFFICULTY

The only thing that hindered Doris in her program is that she did not take any electronics in high school. At the beginning, she used to ask herself, "What am I doing in this course?" With her willingness to learn and a helpful boy friend, Doris has overcome this difficulty.

Asked about employment prospects, Doris said, "I think my chances for a job are as good as anyone's as I have the right training."

If women want to go into technological courses, they should not feel discouraged, Doris said. She thought it is a good idea that Bette Ferguson, counsellor on campus and co-ordinator of women's studies, will be sending pamphlets to high schools encouraging girls to enter the field of technology.

Rates rise

Your tuition

Tuition increases for all colleges of applied arts and technology become effective Sept. 1, 1979, E. L. Kerridge, director of the ministry of colleges and universities, announced Jan. 19.

In a memo to all Ontario colleges, Mr. Kerridge said the $10 increase for all full-time fee-paying students will be: $172.50 for one term (16 weeks); $345 for two terms (32 weeks); $517 for three terms (48 to 52 weeks inclusive).

All other programs of a duration other than these will be based on a rate of $11 per week. There will be no change in the tuition fees of foreign/international students.

Literary Contest

The first Niagara College Literary Contest, open to all full-time and part-time students, will be held this term.

The contest is divided into two categories — fiction and non-fiction. Fiction submissions may be made under the following sub-categories: poetry, short stories, plays and radio and TV scripts. Non-fiction submissions may be essays, scientific reports, surveys and investigative reports.

Maximum length for any submission should not exceed 10 typewritten pages, double spaced.

Submissions will be initially examined for their literary value by a team of judges. The best selections will be further examined by a different team of judges to decide on winners. Most of the judges will be members of the College faculty; some will be drawn from outside. Decisions of the judges will be final.

One prize will be awarded for the best submission under non-fiction and two prizes for the best submissions under fiction.

Depending on the quality of the work, as many as six submissions may be entitled to receive "Honourable Mention."

Submissions should be made on or before Friday, March 23. Late submissions will not be accepted. Submissions should be delivered or addressed to the Secretaries of the Schools of Applied Arts, Health Sciences, Technology, and Retraining.

Please attach to your submission on a separate sheet your name, address, student number, telephone number, and the title of your submission.

Your submission will be given to the judges along with your student number. Your names will be concealed to protect your identity. No student can present more than one submission. Winners will be announced in the last Winter edition of the Niagara News.

Organizers: Ray Matthews, James Nicholas, Gary Webb

UIC changes hurt part-time

By JUDY SUGA
Staff Writer

Individuals involved in part-time work "may be affected" and those on piece work and straight commission sales "will have a problem" with changes to the Unemployment Insurance Act, Norm Adams, Canada Employment and Immigration representative, said yesterday.

Speaking to an all-female audience in L3, Mr. Adams said the new legislation, in effect Jan. 1, states a person must work 20 hours per week to be insurable. The previous requirement was a minimum of $48 earned per week. So, if a person worked 19 hours per week and earned $100, he would still not be insurable, Mr. Adams said.

Those on piece-work or straight commission sales, who "don't control" their hours, will have to earn at least $79.50 a week to be insurable, which is 30 per cent of the maximum insurable earnings for one week, he said.

BIGGEST CHANGE

The "biggest change" was the reduction, effective Jan. 7, of the rate of unemployment benefits, Mr. Adams said. Individuals will now be receiving only 60 per cent of the average weekly earnings over the previous 20 weeks or less, whereas last year it was 66 ⅔ per cent. The maximum insurable earnings are now $265 a week, and "the maximum benefit is now $159 per week."

Mr. Adams said the changes were made because most taxpayers complained of paying too much towards unemployment insurance, and most people reacted complacently to the changes.

"People just seem to go along and say it's just fine."

Other changes include those affecting "high-income earners," a reduction of UIC deductions from employers and employees' wages, and an increase in the minimum penalty "to stop improper practices by a employer" in filing claims, he said.

CLASSIFIED

Cars for Sale

FOR SALE — 1974 Honda Civic in good condition, less than 55,000 miles with body in good shape, good gas mileage and low incidence of repair, selling certified at $2,100 or best offer; contact Tom at 684-2153 or 735-2211, ext. 282 during the day.

Room and Board

ROOM AND BOARD — Non-smoking abstainers, $35 per week, 691 Niagara St.; contact Dave at 735-8840.

Conference

Cont'd. from page 1

make block bookings of major bands for college pubs. He said the huge bookings could lead to lower costs per college.

Algonquin college delegates were opposed to any affiliation with the OFS. Mohawk, Canadore and St. Clair colleges were also opposed to any association with the federation.

Algonquin college has the highest enrolment of any community college in Ontario with more than 6,000 students.

SEPARATE FROM OFS

Algonquin student council vice-president Dan Botsford said his college advocates a crisis management organization completely separate from the OFS. He said colleges should get together on an autonomous basis. Algonquin did not vote in the election of the executive. St. Clair and Mohawk also abstained from the election.

The executive of the new commission is: Don Francis, Humber; Mike McMurter, Loyalist; Glen Convey, Fanshawe; Marc Kerr, Cambrian and Sandra Stephenson, Sir Sanford Fleming.

The new commission executive will be together until April when a new board will be chosen.

Community colleges wanting to join the commission will have to pass a resolution in their respective governments. The fee structure to join the commission is not yet determined.

The OFS will provide travel expenses and organizational support for the commission executive until the commission can finance itself. The OFS will also allocate field work and research staff in the college sector.

Ross Report findings:

Tuition fees to climb... but how much?

By PAUL WILSON
Staff Writer

While grumbling about tuition fees seems to be commonplace throughout the province, a recent study commissioned by the province of Ontario reveals that few people in the colleges and universities are in favor of doing away with the fees altogether.

The study, released last week by the ministry of colleges and universities, examines the attitudes of post secondary students, faculty and administrators towards various educational charges.

Prepared by the independent consulting firm of P. S. Ross and Partners, the report presents a 200-page barrage of facts and figures concerning tuition fees. Among them is the statistic that only 18 per cent of the study's respondents are in favor of zero tuition.

In fact, the concept of zero tuition is probably not too realistic in light of the report's comments that "the outlook is for continued constraints on the availability of public funds for post secondary institutions and, at best, stable enrolment until 1982 and decline thereafter. There is a growing public view that government funds are not inexhaustible and should be directed towards high priority needs, and that private funding inputs, particularly where high personal benefits exist, should be increased."

Under the present system, tuition fees account for an average of 12 per cent of community colleges' operating income, and 16 per cent at the universities.

$800 TUITION?

The study examines the reaction to and the effects of tuition fees if they were set to represent 10 per cent and 20 per cent of operating funds. Under the latter scheme, tuitions could rise to $800 or more.

However, the Ross report makes clear that is is merely an investigative study, and no recommendations are made. Any policies coming out of the report are expected to be made by November of this year.

Increases for the academic year starting this September were announced earlier this month by Bette Stephenson, minister of education and of colleges and universities. Tuition fees will increase up to five per cent at universities, and $10 a term at community colleges.

The issue of incidental fees — charges for lab fees, materials etc. —is examined in the report.

The average incidental fee paid for all community colleges is $27.77. For a limited few, the charges are much higher: 3.1 per cent of all full time community college students pay between $91 and $120.

The report said that at Niagara the proportion is more than four times as high, with 13.6 per cent paying incidental fees of this amount.

FEES NO BARRIER

Sixty-nine per cent of the study's respondents say that they do not feel the current level of tuition and incidental fees is a barrier to those considering a post secondary education.

Similarly, the Ontario Student Assistance Program is viewed as adequate in allowing low income groups to obtain higher education, but many respondents are concerned that flexibility be maintained so that OSAP keeps pace with any tuition hikes.

In line with this sentiment, Dr. Stephenson announced on Wednesday that the OSAP program will be bolstered by $3 million to $80 million in 1979-80 to keep pace with the upcoming tuition increases. Grants awarded to students may increase by similar amounts.

At the same time, a report contained in the Ross Study says that "lowering tuition fees or increasing student grants are both effective means of increasing access to post secondary institutions, but the best available evidence indicates that these financial incentives are expensive and relatively inefficient in their effects" The report estimates that it costs the public $4,100 to entice an additional new student into the system.

The study touches on the area of student-related incidental fees, i.e. student activity fees. Most colleges charge $30 to $40, but there are extremes — at Sheridan, the fee is $20; at Cambrian it is $57.

Niagara charges $35, but the Student Administrative Council (SAC) is in the process of raising the fee to $40 to cover items such as increased athletic costs and proposed higher honorariums for themselves.

Jim Salfi [right], a Niagara Falls union official, delivers his backing of the support staff strike by joining the picket lines. With him are Jerry Salfi, support staff communications director, and Kay Steele, president of the support staff local. (Photo by Wilson)

Slow mail back to normal

Claire's Delivery Service, the firm which runs Niagara's mail room, has had at least one brush with the support staff strike, but is now operating normally, according to its president, Claire Simpson.

On Wednesday, the first day of the strike, one of the three girls who works in the mailroom did not cross the picket line. Mr. Simpson said, "The girl knew people on the line and they were heckling her. She felt badly and went back home."

He said she was on the job yesterday, and the mailroom was operating normally. He added, however, that the volume of mail has been cut drastically with secretaries off the job.

Jerry Salfi, communications director of the strike committee, claims the mail room staff is working under duress, and says they've been told by their employer that they can expect no job protection if they honor the picket lines.

Awarded for service to drum corps

Rose Festival chairman Bill Evans [right] presents Welland Mayor Eugene Stranges with the Ontario Drum Corps Association Award given to the committee at the Skyline Hotel, Toronto, last Saturday. The award is given in recognition of meritorious service to the drum corps movement in Ontario and to the Welland community. The banquet was attended by 600 people from six provinces and 12 states.

UEW joins picket lines

By PAUL WILSON
Staff Writer

Niagara's support staff gained influential support yesterday as Jim Salfi, president of Local 536 (Niagara Falls) of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, joined the college picket lines.

"I'm here to pledge full support," he said. "And I've got the solid backing of my union." There are 140 workers in Mr. Salfi's local. The Welland branch, which he says is considerably larger, will also be showing support by joining the lines.

Mr. Salfi is disappointed by faculty's lack of participation in the strike. "When they belong to unions themselves, they should stop and think. If the teachers have trouble here, what do they expect others to do?"

He is less critical of student response, and says that he recognizes that they're concerned about their education. "But they should realize that they'll soon be in the working world, and they may be running into similar problems."

Mr. Salfi is the father of Jerry Salfi, communications director of the strike committee at Niagara. Mr. Salfi Sr., says that fact did not influence his participation in the strike. "When a union makes a pledge to strike, I back them. And I've been backing them for 20 years."

He feels the strike is working well, and is glad that it has stayed peaceful.

Wednesday 'quiet day' counselling

Counselling, placement and student awards offices were operating normally on the first day of the strike, despite the lack of secretarial help.

"It's business as usual, but it may take us a little longer," Mary Ellen Patterson, student awards officer, said.

Loans will continue to be processed and pre-arranged job interviews will take place.

Wednesday was a "pretty quiet day" but Mrs. Patterson was uncertain whether this was because of the weather conditions or the strike.

TIRED OF COSTLY CAR INSURANCE

DO YOU HAVE A

GOOD DRIVING RECORD?

If so, special rates are available from

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Celebrate Canada

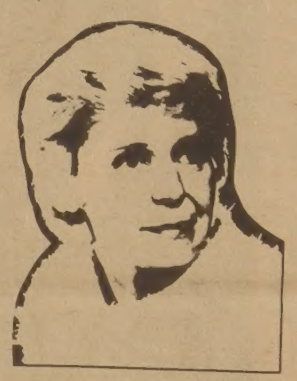
Arts & Crafts

...over 100 exhibitors...an exciting display of local, ethnic crafts and artistry...continuously running on February 15th & 16th — 8:30 - 10:30 p.m...8:30 - 4:30 p.m. on February 17th.

Arts for the handicapped

...the Niagara Cerebral Palsy Association presents an Arts Carousel. Activities include a puppetry and mime show, assorted demonstrations and numerous displays.

Norma Edwards - Canadian Dramatist



Norma Edwards, talented television, radio and stage actress, will dramatize the women from the novels of Margaret Laurence on Friday, February 16th at 1:00 p.m. This 5'6" bundle of dynamite has a repertoire including such diverse roles as Martha in Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf to the exuberant and unconventioal Mami. In her portrayal, the characters come alive and are imbued with every spectrum of human emotions. It is a moving experience, not to be missed.

...COME TO THE CABARET...

RESERVE YOUR TICKETS NOW

Italian Cabaret Night

Saturday, February 17, 1979.

featuring "Allegria"

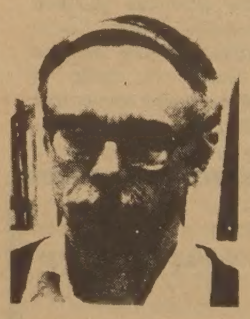
80 members strong from Brantford
Cash bar at 7:00 p.m. and buffet at 7:30 p.m.
Entertainment 8:30
Free table wine (compliments of Chateau Gai Wines)
to be held in the Black Walnut Building
Woodlawn Road Campus Welland, Ontario
Tickets $10 per person

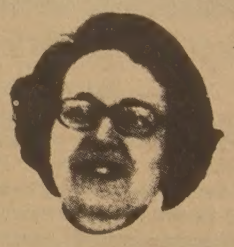
Available: Hennepin Hall, S.A.C. office, all Divisional Secretaries, Resource Centre, Welland Vale office

For Additional Information call 735-2211, 688-1380, 384-9716, 382-2383, Ext. 377

Plus, much, much, more...

Poets...





Niagara College proudly presents Colleen Thibodeau and James Reaney, noted Canadian poets, to speak on their works on Friday, February 16th, from 11:15 - 1:00 p.m.

...Nineteenth Century Canadian art, Victoria's fifty years...

...free lecture and slide demonstration by an art specialist from the Royal Ontario Museum Speaker's Brueau, Toronto, tracing the development of Canadian art through a fifty year period of Victoria's reign. The lecture will be presented at one and three p.m. on Saturday, February 17th, Main Campus, Woodlawn Road, Welland.

Plus...

The Canadiana Youth Choir Dancers and the Canadiana Children's Choir, comprising about 170 people between the ages of eight and 24, will highlight this year's festival. The St. Catharines song and dance troupe will be singing predominantly Canadian folk songs as well as some contemporary and modern, and performing Canadian dances. The troupe will perform twice during the festival performances are free and open to the general public, so come on out, it's sure to be a performance that will delight audiences of all ages.

As well as,

...The Magic Pen

...by the sweep of an artist's pen and the sight and sound of a naturalist's talk, a classroom at Niagara College will be transformed into a Winter Wonderland for children visiting this year's festival. There will be two showing...Saturday, February 17th at 1:30 p.m., is designed to appeal to children ages 3-6. The second showing at 3:30 p.m. is designed for ages seven to 12.

John Field

lecturing on the first Welland Canal...Friday, February 16th, at 12:15 p.m. and again at 2:45 p.m. Room 5, Lundy Building.

...A humorous introduction to Drawing and Painting.

with artist, Ruth White. Thursday and Friday, February 15th and 16th, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

AND! THIS IS ONLY A SAMPLING OF THE WIDE VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES PLANNED DURING THE WEEK!

WITH **NIAGARA COLLEGE**

FEBRUARY 15-17, '79